

 NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

Bali Magic

TRAVELER

Nobody Knows This World Better
JUNE/JULY 2013

World's Best LODGES

25

Spots to
Sleep in
the Wild
(roughing it
not required)

PLUS: SPAIN'S GALICIA | MIDWEST PIZZA FARMS
BALTIMORE | SAN DIEGO | MOUNT RUSHMORE

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM

Find it now via
our iPad App.



The InterContinental Concierge Service
will inspire and assist your perfect
experience, wherever you choose to go.



“Explore the area” online



Concierge iPad App



“Insider knowledge” guides

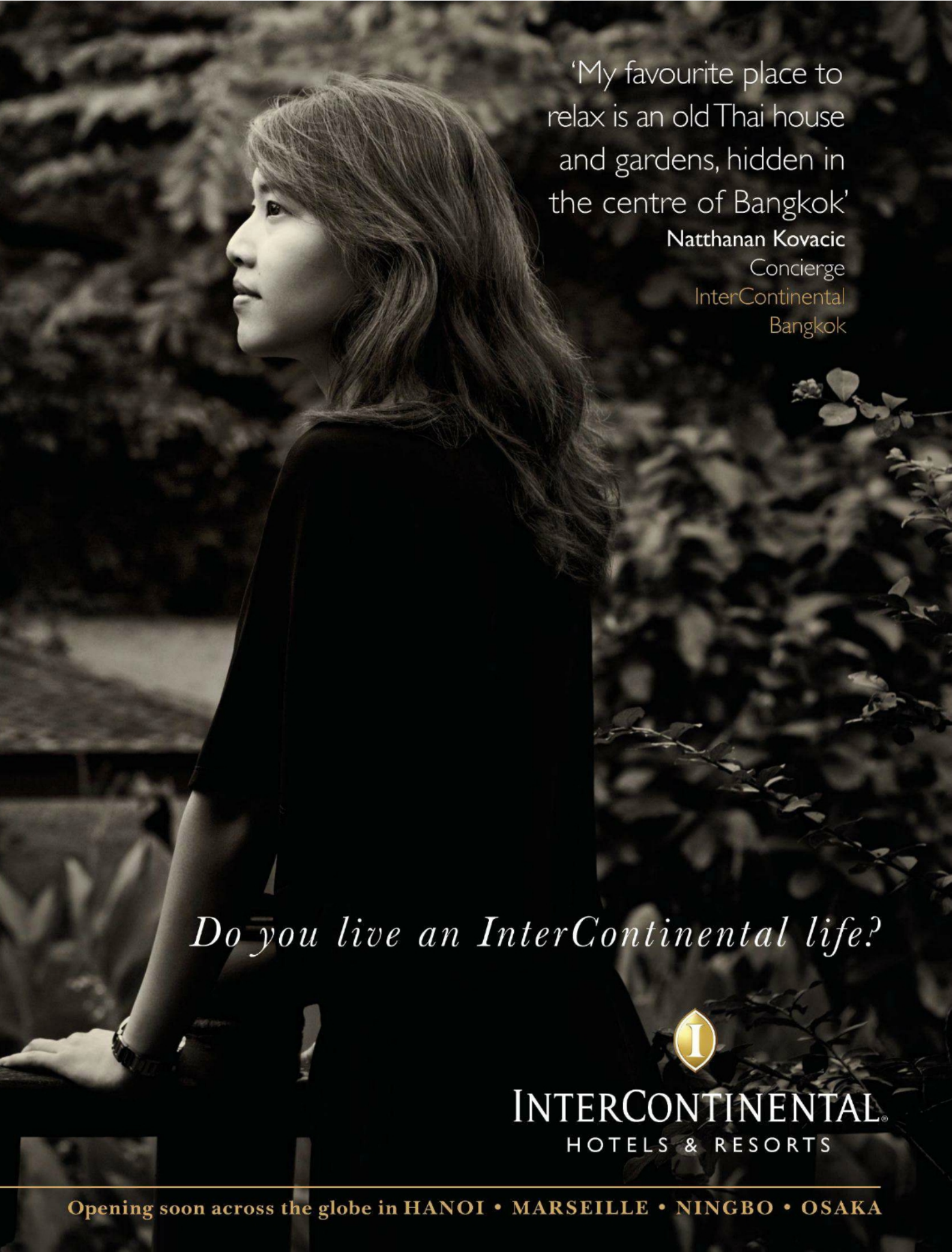


Concierge Lounge



Over 150 destination videos

visit intercontinental.com



'My favourite place to
relax is an old Thai house
and gardens, hidden in
the centre of Bangkok'

Natthanan Kovacic
Concierge
InterContinental
Bangkok

Do you live an InterContinental life?



INTERCONTINENTAL®
HOTELS & RESORTS

Opening soon across the globe in HANOI • MARSEILLE • NINGBO • OSAKA



Usain Bolt

6-time Olympic gold medalist and world record holder

NX300



Shoot fast. Share faster.

Capture and share life's fast moments in perfect detail with the **Samsung SMART CAMERA NX300**.
Hybrid Auto Focus | 1/6000 sec Shutter Speed | AutoShare | Tilt Display (3.31" AMOLED)

● Black ● White ● Brown



Available at:



©2013 Samsung Electronics America, Inc. All rights reserved. Samsung is a registered trademark of Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. All products and brand names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. Screen images simulated.



[NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELER]

Features

46

THAT OLD BALI MAGIC

Veiled by a haze of frangipani blossoms and incense, the Indonesian island reveals itself in its myths and traditions

By JAMIE JAMES

PHOTOGRAPHS by RAYMOND PATRICK

58

25 WILD NIGHTS

From a medieval mountain retreat in Greece to a tree house in the Peruvian jungle, the world's 25 top ecolodges are low on environmental impact but high on wow factor

By COSTAS CHRIST

72

MONTAUK ON MY MIND

You can go home again: a road trip of rediscovery to eastern Long Island's beaches and farm stands

By JANELLE NANOS

78

GALICIA, UNTAMED

A pilgrim finds his Celtic ancestry cast in stone and ablaze in ritual on the rugged northwestern coast of Spain

STORY AND PHOTOGRAPHS

by JIM RICHARDSON

Two familiar sights in Bali: umbrellas and smiles, page 46.

RAYMOND PATRICK

The top half of the image shows the interior of a 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee. The focus is on the front seats, which are upholstered in a dark brown leather with a perforated texture. The word "SUMMIT" is embossed on the side of the driver's seat. The center console features a gear shifter and handbrake. The dashboard and steering wheel are also visible, showing a modern design with wood trim accents. The background shows a blurred view of a lake and trees, suggesting a serene outdoor setting.

2014 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE

THE BEST

OF WHAT WE'RE

MADE OF

The bottom half of the image is a close-up shot of a dark, textured surface, likely the leather upholstery of the car. A thick, light-colored rope is coiled around a wooden peg, which is also visible. The lighting is warm and focused, highlighting the texture of the leather and the details of the rope and wood.

REIMAGINING LUXURY WITH ATTENTION TO EVEN THE SMALLEST DETAIL.
ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL REASON IT'S THE MOST AWARDED SUV EVER.



Jeep

Grand Cherokee Summit shown. *Jeep Grand Cherokee has received more awards over its lifetime than any other SUV. Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

Jeep.com/GrandCherokee

Departments

8 Editor's Note | 8 Foreign Desk | 12 Travel Talk



Countercultural Seattle, page 18.

14

The Trend

Volcano travel erupts

16

The Place

France's Alpe d'Huez

18

The Neighborhood

Georgetown, Seattle

20

The Idea

Graffiti goes legit in Taiwan

20

The Milestone

Romanovs remembered

24

The Event

Santa Fe folk art market

24

The Taste

Midwest pizza farms

24

The Stay

Horizontal hotels in Vienna

25

The Person

Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli

26

Daisann McLane

Tales of time travel

28

Boyd Matson

Different strokes

30

Christopher Elliott

Don't let the bedbugs bite

32

Costas Christ

In defense of elephants

33

48 Hours

Baltimore, Maryland

36

Family Time

San Diego's Balboa Park

40

Port of Call

Sun and Sylt, Germany

45

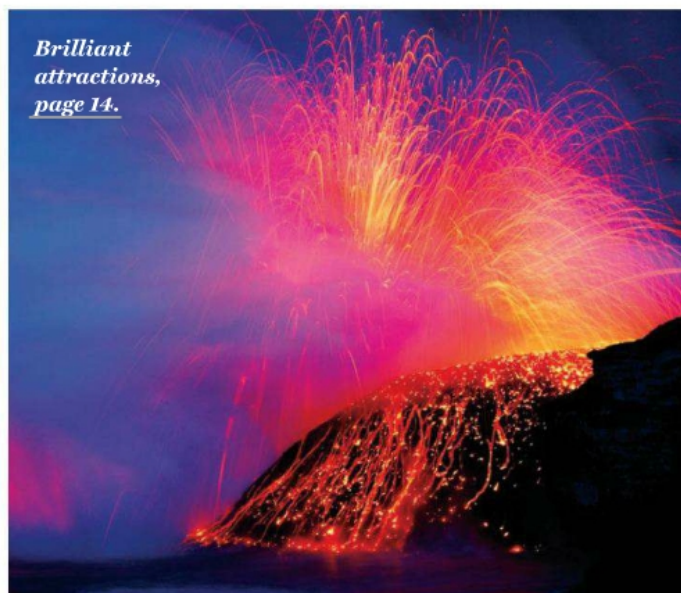
Local Flavor

Socca: France's skinny secret

96

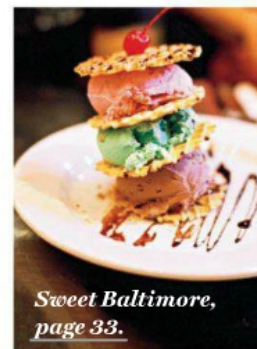
The Icon

Mount Rushmore



Brilliant attractions, page 14.

ON THE COVER: Turtle Inn, Belize, by Al Argueta



Sweet Baltimore, page 33.

MICHAEL HANSON (SHOP); TOSHI SASAKI/GETTY IMAGES (VOLCANO); SHUTTER SHOCK (DESSERT)

Brilliant.

Transitions®
Vantage™
ADAPTIVE LENSES



Enjoy crisper, sharper vision outdoors.

From the vibrancy of a city to the vividness of nature, our eyes guide us through our adventures, creating memories and inspiring new ideas. Transitions® Vantage™ lenses enhance these experiences even more by adapting to changing light and polarizing as they darken. As light changes, so does the tint and polarization in the lenses. So you always see life in the best light, with less glare and better clarity and color outdoors.

Learn about the many choices
of Transitions lenses at Transitions.com/Brilliant

BLOCK
100% UV

Transitions and the swirl are registered trademarks and Transitions Adaptive Lenses, Vantage and Life well lit are trademarks of Transitions Optical, Inc. ©2013 Transitions Optical, Inc. Photochromic performance is influenced by temperature, UV exposure and lens material.



Life well lit.



The Misool Eco Resort, in Indonesia, exemplifies a new breed of conservation-minded lodging.

[EDITOR'S NOTE]

New Norm for Lodges?

WHEN I BECAME THE EDITOR of this magazine 15 years ago, the word “ecolodge” suggested places that were so pared down and dutiful that many travelers were regarding them as the domain of the backpacker—all basic furnishings and uninspired food. Therefore it is astonishing to see how much the lodging industry has changed in little more than a decade. I never much liked the prefix “eco” because innovative hotels and lodges such as those we’re featuring in our special section on page 58 are so much more than green-conscious places in which to stay. They source their food, products, and workers locally. They proudly preserve an authentic sense of place. They celebrate and cherish the local culture. They fight to conserve indigenous landscapes and species. And they donate revenue to support nearby communities. All this while also employing Earth-friendly technologies and practices.

Many of the lodges are small and offer hand-tooled creature comforts—and almost all are one-of-a-kind discoveries. But they can hardly be reduced to the simplistic label of “ecolodge.” They are a sign of what will prove increasingly commonplace—a move away from homogenized, big-box lodging experiences. Even major lodging chains now are backing away from a one-size-fits-all approach in favor of the bespoke. This shift in the industry is a gift to travelers who have grown weary of lobbies and food and decor that seem divorced from local cultures. I heartily welcome the changes—and look forward to the day when we finally retire the word “ecolodge.” —KEITH BELLOWS

[FOREIGN DESK]

WARSAW RISING

Poland’s proud capital commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising this year. Julia Lachowicz, an editor with our Polish edition, shares suggestions for memorable local experiences.

THE COLD WAR, ILLUMINATED

In the 1960s and ’70s, colorful neon signs brightened Warsaw’s often drab cityscape and, over time, became part of the city’s cultural fabric. As modern advertisements replaced them, the signs were taken down. A sampler now is on exhibit at the **Neon Museum**—an homage to Warsaw’s underground spirit.

TIME TRAVEL

Warsaw’s ghetto wall, built by the Nazis in World War II, confined more than 400,000 Jews. Now all but demolished, the barricade—or at least a remnant—can be viewed in a yard between **Złota and Sienna streets**, a poignant reminder of one of the most turbulent chapters in Warsaw’s history.



TRADITIONAL VICTUALS

You won’t find upscale dishes at **Przekąski Zakąski**. Instead you’ll enjoy such Polish specialties as *nóżki*—a jellied consommé with pork—and *śledzie*, pickled herring with cream and onions. The preferred pairing? A shot of Polish vodka. *Na zdrowie!*

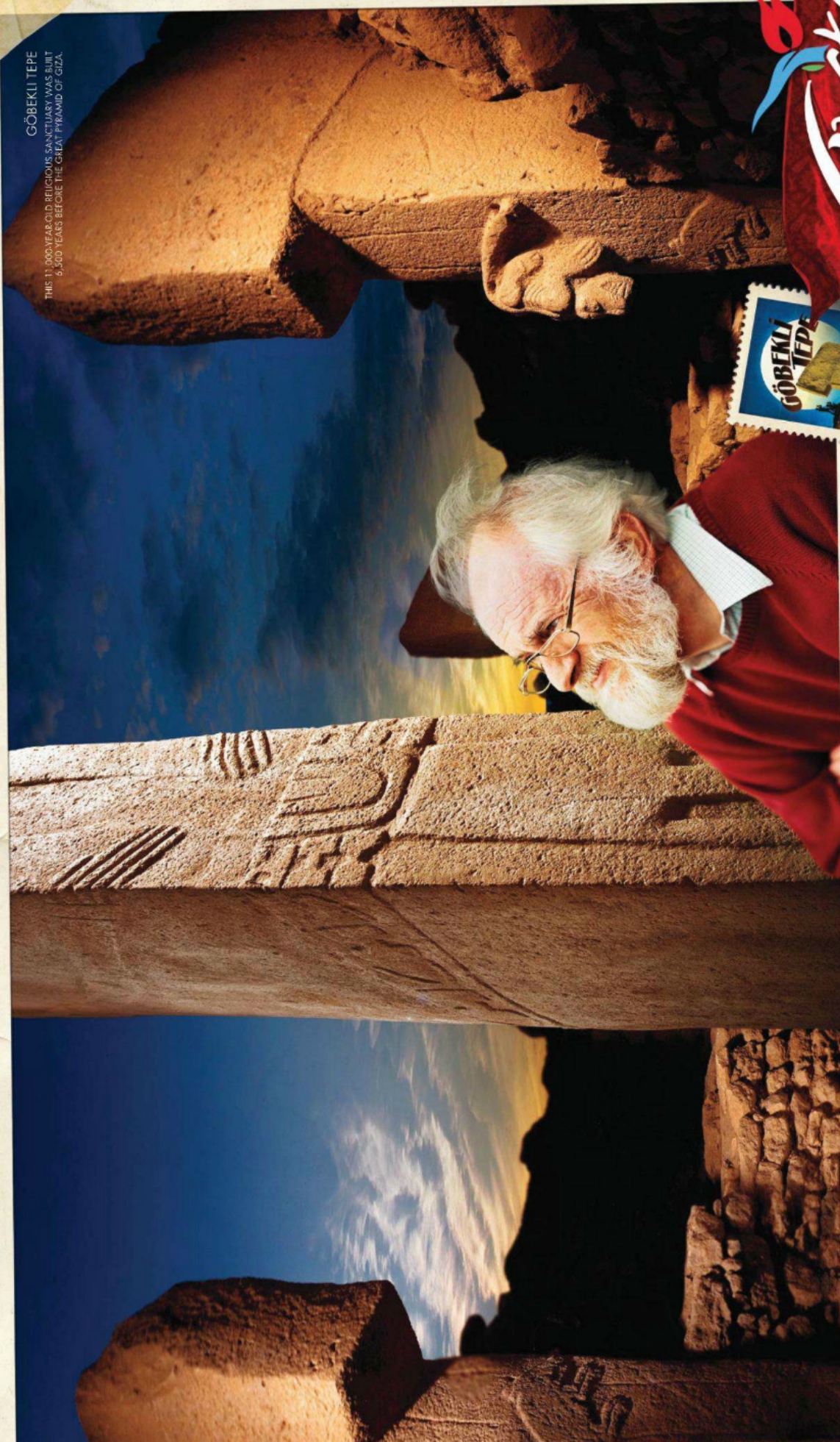
BARGAIN BAZAAR

Poles love flea markets. One of the biggest is the weekend **Koto Bazaar**, west of central Warsaw, where you’ll find everything from vintage Warsaw postcards to antiques.

THE FIRST HOUSE OF GOD

goturkey.com
OFFICIAL TOURISM PORTAL OF TURKEY

GÖBEKLI TEPE
THIS 11,000-YEAR-OLD RELIGIOUS SANCTUARY WAS BUILT
9,500 YEARS BEFORE THE GREAT PYRAMID OF GIZA.



GÖBEKLI TEPE

1877 FOR TURKEY | TURKISH CULTURE AND TOURISM OFFICE | TOURISMTURKEY.ORG

A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER
**TURKISH
AIRLINES**

turkishairlines.com

Turkey

be our guest

f2.0 Tough TG-2



Stylus Tough TG-2 iHS

Waterproof 50ft

Shockproof 7ft

Crushproof 220lb

Freezeproof 14°F

Expand your TG-2 iHS system with the F-CON Fisheye Converter lens or the T-CON Teleconverter lens.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELER

NOBODY KNOWS THIS WORLD BETTER | PUBLISHED IN 15 COUNTRIES AND 12 LANGUAGES

OFFICES IN WASHINGTON, D.C. • LONDON • AMSTERDAM • BARCELONA • MILAN • MOSCOW • PRAGUE
WARSAW • BUCHAREST • TEL AVIV • BEIJING • JAKARTA • MUMBAI • ULAANBAATAR • MEXICO CITY

EDITOR & SR. VICE PRESIDENT, TRAVEL MEDIA

Keith Bellows

EXECUTIVE EDITOR Norie Quintos
CREATIVE DIRECTOR Jerry Sealy
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY Daniel R. Westergren
SENIOR EDITOR Jayne Wise
ASSOCIATE EDITORS
Amy Alipio, Katie Knorovsky, Susan O'Keefe
COPY EDITOR Judy Burke
DEPUTY ART DIRECTOR Leigh V. Borghesani
ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR Michele Chu
SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR Carol Enquist
PHOTO EDITOR Krista Rossow
CHIEF RESEARCHER Marilyn Terrell
SENIOR RESEARCHER Meg Weaver
MANAGING EDITOR, E-PUBLISHING Kathie Gartrell
GEOTOURISM EDITOR Jonathan B. Tourtellot
PRODUCTION MANAGER David M. Burneston
EDITORIAL BUSINESS MANAGER Jeannette Kimmel
ASSISTANT TO THE EDITOR Erin Block
ASSISTANT RESEARCHERS Christine Bednarz,
Monika Joshi INTERNS Coral Keegan, Sophie Massie,
Stephanie Rothman

EDITORS AT LARGE Sheila F. Buckmaster, Costas Christ, Christopher Elliott, Don George, Boyd Matson, Andrew McCarthy, Daisann McLane, George W. Stone

DIGITAL NOMAD Andrew Evans

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS Elizabeth Berg, Carl Hoffman, Raphael Kadushin, P. F. Kluge, Charles Kulander, Barton Lewis, Margaret Loftus, Rudy Maxa, Joyce Maynard, Peter McBride, Andrew Nelson, Edward Readicker-Henderson

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS Massimo Bassano, Sisse Brimberg, Cotton Coulson, Macduff Everton, Justin Guariglia, Aaron Huey, Catherine Karnow, Bob Krist, Michael Melford, Palani Mohan, Chris Rainier, Jim Richardson, Susan Seubert, Dave Yoder

PUBLICIST Heather Wyatt

ntraveler@hwyattpr.com; 212-610-5535
MARKET RESEARCH MANAGER Tracy Hamilton Stone

DIGITAL MEDIA MANAGER OF TRAVEL CONTENT

Carolyn Fox ASSOCIATE PRODUCER Andrea Leitch
SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR Sarah Polger
BLOG EDITOR Leslie Magraw

PRODUCTION & MANUFACTURING SENIOR VICE

PRESIDENT Phillip L. Schlosser DIRECTOR Gregory Storer MANUFACTURING MANAGER Robert L. Barr
PRODUCTION MANAGER Callie Norton

SUBMISSIONS Submission of photographs, articles, or other materials is done at the risk of the sender; *Traveler* cannot accept liability for loss or damage.

SUBSCRIPTIONS Published eight times a year: U.S., \$17.95 a year; Canada, \$24.95 (U.S. funds); elsewhere, \$25.50 (U.S. funds). For subscription questions, please call 800-NGS-LINE (647-5463), (TDD: 800-548-9797). To subscribe online, visit www.nationalgeographic.com.

EDITORIAL OFFICE 1145 17th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-4688

PUBLISHER & VICE PRESIDENT, GLOBAL MEDIA

Kimberly Connaghan

NATIONAL TRAVEL BRAND DIRECTOR

John Campbell jcampbel@ngs.org

ADVERTISING North America Sales Offices

161 Sixth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10013;
212-610-5500, Fax: 212-741-0463

NEW YORK | BRAND MANAGERS Tammy Abraham
tabraham@ngs.org; Hilary Halstead hhalstet@ngs.org;

Doug Harrison doharris@ngs.org; Kathleen Kertesz
kkertesz@ngs.org; Danielle Nagy dnagy@ngs.org;

Katie Ceglarski kceglars@ngs.org

TRAVEL DIRECTORY MANAGER Laura Robertson
larobert@ngs.org

SOUTHEAST | RANGER MEDIA GROUP, INC. Kenneth
M. Farber ken@rangergroup.com; 770-391-9905

MIDWEST | BRAND MANAGER

Bill Graff bgraff@ngs.org; Fax: 312-467-9677

DETROIT | BRAND MANAGER Karen Sarris ksarris@ngs.org; 248-358-4360, Fax: 248-358-2463

TEXAS | ZEKO MEDIA Dean Zeko dean@zekomedia.com;
Bruce Horner bruce@zekomedia.com; 469-232-9636

ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATES | FOUR CORNERS

MARKETING Layne Middleton fourcorners@aol.com;
928-443-8540, Fax: 928-443-8408

WEST COAST | BRAND MANAGER/TRAVEL Kevin Carr
kcarr@ngs.org; BRAND MANAGER Eric Josten

ejosten@ngs.org; Fax: 310-858-5801

HAWAII | DESTINATION MARKETING HAWAII Debbie
Anderson debbieanderson@dmhawaii.com;

808-739-2200, Fax: 808-739-2201

CANADA | PUBLICITAS APR Françoise Chalifour
francoise.chalifour@publicitas.com; 416-363-1388,
Fax: 416-363-2889

MEXICO & CENTRAL AMERICA Adelina Carpenter
acarpent@prodigy.net.mx; 011-52-555-543-7677,
Fax: 011-52-555-543-7580

MAGAZINE PUBLISHING ADMINISTRATION

1145 17th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036-4688

BUSINESS & FINANCE MAGAZINE PUBLISHING

VICE PRESIDENT Margaret Schmidt mschmidt@ngs.org;

BUSINESS MANAGER John Paternoster jpaterma@ngs.org;

FINANCIAL COORDINATOR Lindsey Caylor

lcaylor@ngs.org; ADVERTISING RESEARCH

DIRECTOR Jeffrey Johnson jjohnson@ngs.org;

CONTRACTS MANAGER Cindy Ramroop cramroop@ngs.org;

202-775-6781

CONSUMER MARKETING

VICE PRESIDENT, GROUP CIRCULATION

Elizabeth M. Safford lsafford@ngs.org

MARKETING & EVENTS

MARKETING DIRECTOR

Pandora Todd ptodd@ngs.org; 202-775-6795

INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE PUBLISHING

VICE PRESIDENT

Yulia P. Boyle yboyle@ngs.org

ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Ariel Deiacio-Lohr adeiacol@ngs.org

♻️ Not saving this issue? Then please recycle.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER John M. Fahey, Jr.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER Tracie A. Winbigler

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT, PUBLISHING AND DIGITAL MEDIA Declan Moore

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND WORLDWIDE PUBLISHER, GLOBAL MEDIA Claudia Malley

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, TRAVEL Lynn Cutter CHAIRMAN EMERITUS Gilbert M. Grosvenor

EXPLORERS-IN-RESIDENCE Robert Ballard, James Cameron, Wade Davis, Jared Diamond, Sylvia Earle, J. Michael Fay, Beverly Joubert, Derek Joubert, Louise Leakey, Meave Leakey, Johan Reinhard, Enric Sala, Paul Sereno, Spencer Wells

COPYRIGHT © 2013 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC TRAVELER: REGISTERED TRADEMARK/MARCA REGISTRADA. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

CRUSHPROOF, SHOCKPROOF, FREEZEPROOF
AND WATERPROOF.

ALL SO YOU CAN BRING BACK ACTUAL PROOF.



Shots taken with the Olympus Tough.

OLYMPUS

Capture your stories.®

Demand more than durability with the Olympus Tough TG-2 iHS. It's not enough to have a camera as durable as your lifestyle. Now you can capture your adventures with a clarity you once thought unthinkable. The TG-2 iHS is one of the only rugged cameras on the market to include an ultra-bright, high-speed f2.0 lens, allowing you to capture dramatic low light and high-speed action shots. Paired with a 12 Megapixel Backlit CMOS Sensor, 1080p Full HD Video and High-Speed Sequential Shooting, you can now bring back stunning proof of your life's adventures. getolympus.com/tough





Homeward Bound

YOUR ROOTS ARE SHOWING. Our April 2013 cover story (above)—which featured five essays by writers who traveled to their motherlands, from Taiwan to Sicily—hit close to home for readers. “An unexpected Facebook message from a Swedish cousin in 2008 launched trips to visit family in Sweden, California, Italy, and Canada,” wrote Brian Stenberg of **Boca Raton, Fla.** “At every turn we felt at home, as if decades and centuries had not passed. The phrase Liz Beatty wrote, ‘shared genetic memory,’ almost brought me to tears. It exists in this transient world and is a powerful motivation to continue the journey.” Barbara Murphy of **Auburn, N.Y.**, shared her tale of genealogy luck: “In 2010 my husband and I

traveled to England. Before we left, I sent a vague letter ‘to the attention of anyone’ at St. Nicholas Church in Potter Heigham, in eastern-most England, from where my great-grandmother emigrated in 1868. The man who received the letter turned it over to his wife, who had a keen interest in genealogy. She wrote back and we arranged to meet; she took us to the churchyard graves of my

great-great-great-grandparents and other ancestors, and handed me an envelope with my family history in England dating back to 1605. We toured the tiny town where my family lived so many years ago. I had known my great-grandmother well, and seeing where she grew up was the highlight of our trip.”

Kelli Nakagama of **Salt Lake City, Utah**, bonded with her parents on a recent trip to explore ancestry in Japan:

“My dad is a third-generation Japanese American who looks the part but doesn’t speak any Japanese; my mom is a blond-haired American who looked and felt out of place, while I am a mix of the two—and the only one able to understand a bit of the language. Japan was foreign to all three of us, but we were able to bridge gaps for each other: my dad in describing food and customs from his childhood, my mom’s outsider’s perspective, and my help with communication. We understand each other better than before.”

In “Unearthing a Polish Past,” Nina Storchlic wrote about Krakow and seeking out the prewar lives of her grandparents, who she wrote had been forced into ghettos in the late 1930s. However, the Krakow Ghetto was not established by the Nazis until 1941. “I’ve heard ‘late 1930s’ so often in our family lore that I never questioned it,” explains Storchlic. “I regret not doing so.” The essay also misdescribes Krakow’s Wawel Castle, which is Polish Renaissance in style.

PARENT TRAP In a column about airplane etiquette (*The Insider*, April 2013), Christopher Elliott suggested that no annoyance “sets off the fireworks as much as Other People’s Kids.” Well, nothing stokes readers’ ire as much as suggesting that parents deserve a pass, with Elliott citing his daughter’s recent behavior as “unfixable.” Phyllis Meyers of **Miami, Fla.**, wrote: “Why did Elliott forget his own advice to think about others? I have never traveled with children without a bag of tricks that kept them content.”

SWISS MISS “Swiss Tracks” (April 2013) lauded the ease of traveling Switzerland by train. Regrettably, our editing proved less efficient: A caption incorrectly located Bern’s Zentrum Paul Klee museum, and the article also misspelled the Italian town of Cervinia.

NEXT QUESTION: *Page 58* features 25 top ecotourists. Where do you connect with nature? E-mail travel_talk@ngs.org.

PACK A SUITCASE, LEAVE THE SUIT.



2X POINTS ON
TRAVEL

WHY NOT PRETEND THAT FOR JUST THIS WEEKEND
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS WORK?



CHASE SAPHIRE PREFERREDSM *There's more to enjoy.SM* | ChaseSapphire.com/Preferred

CHASE

INTRO ANNUAL FEE OF \$0 THE FIRST YEAR, THEN \$95

©2012 JPMorgan Chase & Co. Purchase and balance transfer APR is 15.24% variable. Cash advances and overdraft advances APR is 19.24% variable. Penalty APR of 29.99% variable. Variable APRs change with the market based on the Prime Rate, which was 3.25% on 10/1/12. Annual Fee: \$0 Introductory Fee the first year. After that, \$95. Minimum Interest Charge: None. Balance Transfer Fee: 3% of the amount of each transaction, but not less than \$5. Cash Advance Fee: 5% of the amount of each advance, but not less than \$10. Foreign Transaction Fee: None. Credit cards are issued by Chase Bank USA, N.A. Subject to credit approval. To obtain additional information on the current terms and information on any changes to these terms after the date above, please visit ChaseSapphire.com/Preferred. You must have a valid permanent home address within the 50 United States or the District of Columbia. Restrictions and limitations apply. See ChaseSapphire.com/Preferred for pricing and rewards details.

SMART

TRAVELER

THE TREND

Going With the Flow

BILLOWING ASH FROM Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcano dashed travel plans in 2010, but travel to the icebound peak has been booming since that eruption grounded millions across Europe. **Volcano tourism** is flaring up globally, and Iceland isn't the only hot spot. ¶ New Zealand's Mount Tongariro rumbled back to life last August, spurring an uptick in visitors to the long-dormant volcano. On Hawaii's Big Island, Kilauea volcano recently marked 30 years of nonstop eruption (the longest in recorded history), but after lava started cascading dramatically into the Pacific this winter, visitors began flocking with renewed vigor. Located in a national park that's open 24 hours a day, Kilauea offers surreal twilight views, with the renovated Volcano House—the only U.S. hotel on an active volcano—newly reopened. “Seeing the caldera lit up at daybreak reminds us that we’re standing on a celestial body and puts our human dramas in perspective,” says Kathleen Hackett, a traveler from California. Tip: Active volcanoes change constantly. Learn Kilauea's current top vantages from local park rangers, who get morning briefings, and monitor Tongariro flow updates at doc.govt.nz. —ILIMA LOOMIS

*Walking across
Hawaii's glowing
Kilauea volcano.*



TRAVEL THE WORLD WITH OUR EXTENSIVE LINEUP OF 4G LTE GLOBAL READY DEVICES.

GLOBAL DATA \$**25** PER
PACKAGE 100MB

Feel at home abroad with powerful global coverage from Verizon. Email, surf the web, access your social networks, and more with Verizon's extensive lineup of powerful 4G LTE global ready smartphones, mobile hotspots, and tablets. All this, plus America's Largest 4G LTE Network.

verizonwireless.com/global



Data package must be added to domestic plan. 100MB allowance works in 120 countries. Network details and coverage maps at vzw.com.
4G LTE service only available in the U.S. LTE is a trademark of ETSI. © 2013 Verizon Wireless.

THE PLACE

Social Climbers

WHAT Churchill Downs is to horse racing and the Kentucky Derby, the **Alpe d'Huez** is to cycling and the Tour de France. East of Grenoble in the French Alps, its 21 switchbacks climb 3,687 feet in just under nine miles, pretty much deciding Tour winners since 1952. For this summer's centennial race (starting June 29 in Corsica), cyclists will tackle the fabled French summit twice in one punishing day, July 18—giving savvy fans a sneak peek at the possible outcome three days later at Paris's Champs-Élysées evening finale.

Race day brings out a crush of raucous fans (below) who line the incline along hairpins, each marked by plaques touting past winners of the stage. After the day's mayhem, spectators gather at pubs up and down the mountain over cheesy *tartiflette* and Savoie Gamay red wine. May through September, the Alpe d'Huez provides an unofficial stage (and a diploma) for amateur cyclists who conquer the climb, arms raised triumphantly.

—Liz Beatty





*Bike on: Summer
and fall are
prime cycling
and spectating
season on the
Alpe d'Huez.*

THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Seattle's Industrial Revolution

EVEN AS downtown Seattle goes increasingly sleek, bohemia lives on in **Georgetown**. Wedged between railroad tracks and Boeing Field, where 737 jets get painted and tested for flight, this blue-collar manufacturing hub dates to 1851 (the city's oldest residential zone). In recent years, its old breweries and metal foundries have been transformed by a tight-knit community of "eccentric artists and general oddballs," says Martin Imbach of Georgetown Records. On June 8 the Georgetown Carnival flaunts that independent streak with an annual street fair of power tool races, acrobatics, and wild games.

1 Hangar Cafe Try not to duck as landing planes roar over this brunch favorite at the edge of Boeing Field, in a cozy red house also selling local artwork. Pair the Hangar Crepe with an apple-ginger mimosa in a mason jar.

2 Hat 'n' Boots Locals rescued this 44-foot-wide cowboy hat and 22-foot-tall pair of boots, patented in 1956 as ornamentation for a gas station. Neighborhood lore claims Elvis filled his Cadillac's tank here while filming 1963's *It Happened at the World's Fair*. Today the

colorful sculptures rise over Oxbow Park.

3 Fantagraphics Bookstore & Gallery and Georgetown Records The indie comics imprint offers alternative titles and graphic novels from celebrated local artists like Peter Bagge, who chronicled the early '90s grunge music movement in *Buddy Does Seattle*. The adjacent record shop stocks collectible vinyl, from jazz and military marches to grunge classics like Soundgarden's 1994 breakthrough *Superunknown*.

4 Stables Before a 1916 upstart now known as Boeing made Seattle the Jet City, Boeing Field was the site of Meadows Racetrack. This high-ceilinged venue sheltered the horses that ran there. These days it's a trove exhibiting Seattle memorabilia, such as Booze, a six-foot-tall mechanical clown that's a fixture at local events.

5 Georgetown Trailer Park Mall A parked caravan of trailers from the 1950s and '60s, including a genuine aluminum Airstream, creates a quirky outdoor market. Finds range from 1970s caftans and grunge-era flannel shirts to handmade leather shoes.

6 Georgetown Arts & Cultural Center This space primes visitors on the art scene emanating from Airport Way South, a runway of studios and art schools inside historic redbrick buildings (including the brewery that produced Seattle's famed Rainier Beer until Prohibition). Resident painters, sculptors, and jewelry makers open shop the second Saturday each month for Art Attack, and by appointment.

7 Corson Building Chef Matthew Dillon shops farmers markets to source his gourmet menu (slowly poached rabbit, marinated mussels, peach leaf ice cream). On weekends, diners gather around long tables for communal multicourse meals such as Sunday's "simple family supper" (\$60 with wine).

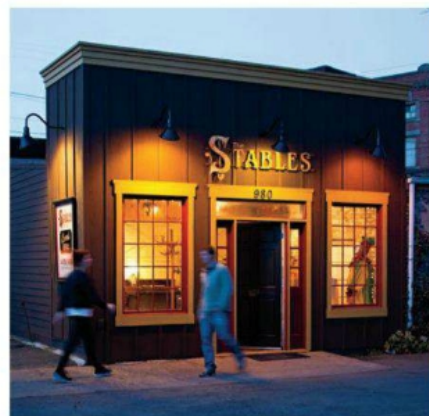
—Karen Carmichael



Trailer Park Mall



Hangar Cafe



INTERNATIONAL MAPING



At the heart of the image™

FINALLY, THERE'S A FULL-FRAME NIKON FOR YOUR FULL-TIME PASSION.

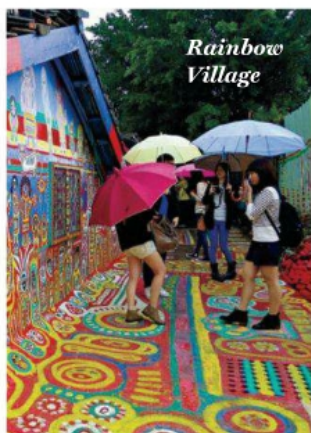
THE NIKON D600: A FULL-FRAME CAMERA
WITHIN THE REACH OF SERIOUS ENTHUSIASTS.

- Full-frame, FX-format 24.3 megapixel CMOS sensor
- 39-point autofocus system with compatibility up to f/8
- Full HD 1080p video recording
- Optional WU-1b Wireless Mobile Adapter to connect to smartphones or tablets*
- Built-in flash that can wirelessly trigger remote Speedlights
- Extended ISO range from ISO 50 to ISO 25,600
- Compatible with the full range of NIKKOR lenses



*For compatibility, specifications and other information regarding the optional WU-1b Wireless Mobile Adapter, please visit www.nikonusa.com/wu1b. Nikon® and D600™ are registered trademarks of Nikon Corporation. ©2013 Nikon Inc.

nikonusa.com/D600



Rainbow
Village

THE IDEA

Painting the Town

Is graffiti always urban blight? Not in Taiwan, where officials are betting on **street art as a force for tourism**.

In Taipei's Ximending district, vibrant stencils and letters brighten walls along America Street, a retail alley set aside by the government as a graffiti zone that allows "tagging" without repercussions. On the east coast of Taiwan, murals outside Taitung's grade schools and community centers depict the city's aboriginal roots with tribal scenes of fishing and hunting. In the industrial western port of Kaohsiung, artists have revitalized an empty warehouse district now known as the Pier 2 Art Center, where spray-painted walls frame fine-art galleries, and Kaohsiung's cultural affairs bureau hosts exhibits and festivals. On the other side of town at Zizhu Village, former Nationalist soldier housing was on the chopping block until local students reimagined its vacant shacks with paint and sculpture—and travelers took notice.

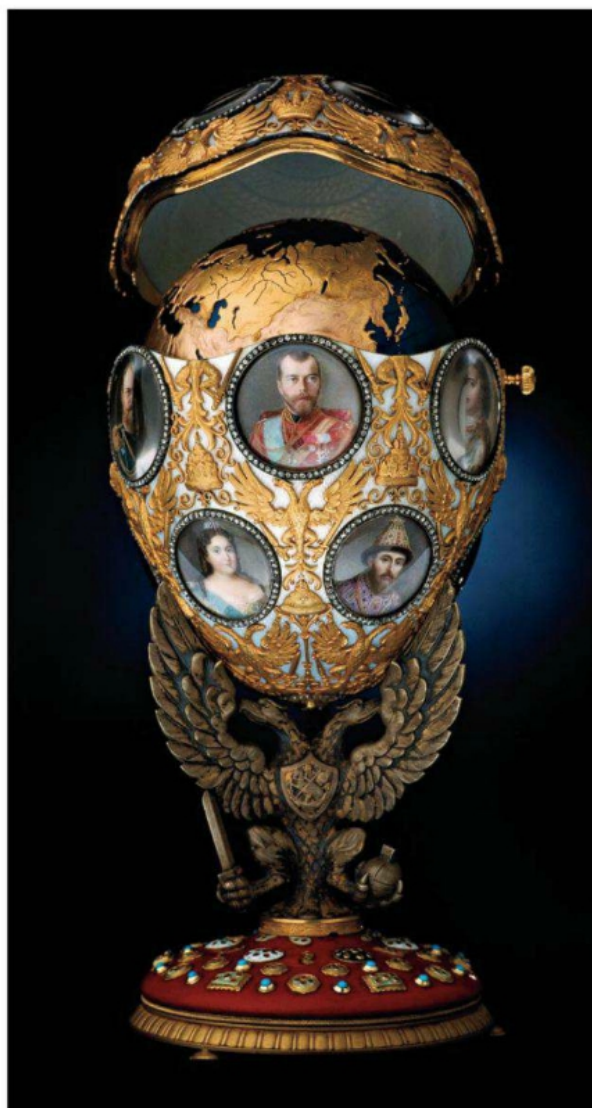
Then there's Taichung's 91-year-old "Rainbow Grandpa," whose colorful brushstrokes turned a veterans' refuge into Rainbow Village, a tourist favorite and officially designated cultural landmark. "I don't smoke, I don't drink, I don't play mah-jongg," says the self-taught artist. "I just paint."

—Erica Schaikjer

THE MILESTONE

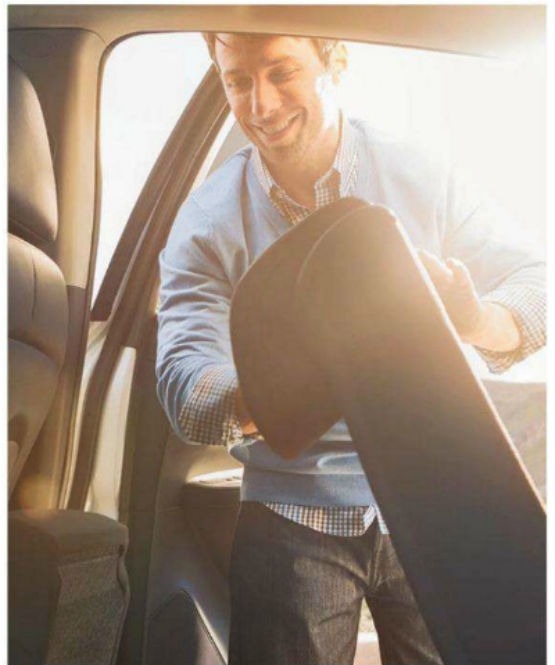
Russia's Last Tsars

ON JULY 22, 1613, Mikhail Romanov begrudgingly took the crown under the vaulted ceiling of Moscow's Cathedral of the Assumption. The 16-year-old ended Russia's political instability and launched its final imperial dynasty. It's the **400th anniversary of the House of Romanov** (and 95th year since the murder of its last monarch, Nicholas II), and the family's legacy remains indelible. As *Moscow Times* reporter Jonathan Earle puts it, the Romanovs "represent a lost authenticity, one of centuries-old traditions and sophisticated elites that produced Pushkin, Tolstoy, and Chekhov." That bygone era can be traced around Moscow. At the Palace of the Romanov Boyars (Mikhail's probable birthplace), painted leather walls and carved furniture shed light on 17th-century aristocracy. Within the Kremlin walls, Mikhail I commissioned the Cathedral of the Assumption's gilded icons and is entombed at the Cathedral of the Archangel. Not far away, Icon House shows relics such as a Winter Palace gala ticket for the tricentenary. —ROBIN CHERRY



Golden rule: a Fabergé egg (left) honoring the Romanovs (above), on view at Moscow's Kremlin near the Cathedral of the Assumption (below).





THE NEXT BIG THING IN LUXURY IS SMALL.



Introducing the all-new Encore from Buick. It combines luxury features like IntelliLink*, an available Bose® Sound System and flexible cargo space in a more nimble package. Discover more at buick.com.



BUICK ENCORE

*Full functionality requires compatible Bluetooth® and smartphone. Some devices require USB connectivity.
©2013 General Motors. All rights reserved. Buick® Buick emblem® Encore™ IntelliLink®

step out of bounds
MONTANA

GATEWAY TO YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK | The Technicolor of Grand Prismatic Spring at almost 200 degrees.





THE EVENT

State of the Art

Consider the **Santa Fe International Folk Art Market**, now in its tenth year, an atlas of artisanship. July 12-14, some 190 artists from 60 countries will convene on Museum Hill under open skies with creations including Cuban paintings (above), Tuareg jewelry, and Malian indigo wares. Amplifying the New Mexico city's year-round status as a global arts nexus, more than 20,000 shoppers come not only for the gorgeous goods but also to meet the makers, such as an Afghan *khamak* collective that transforms embroidery traditions into sumptuous wall hangings. —Ann Abel

THE TASTE

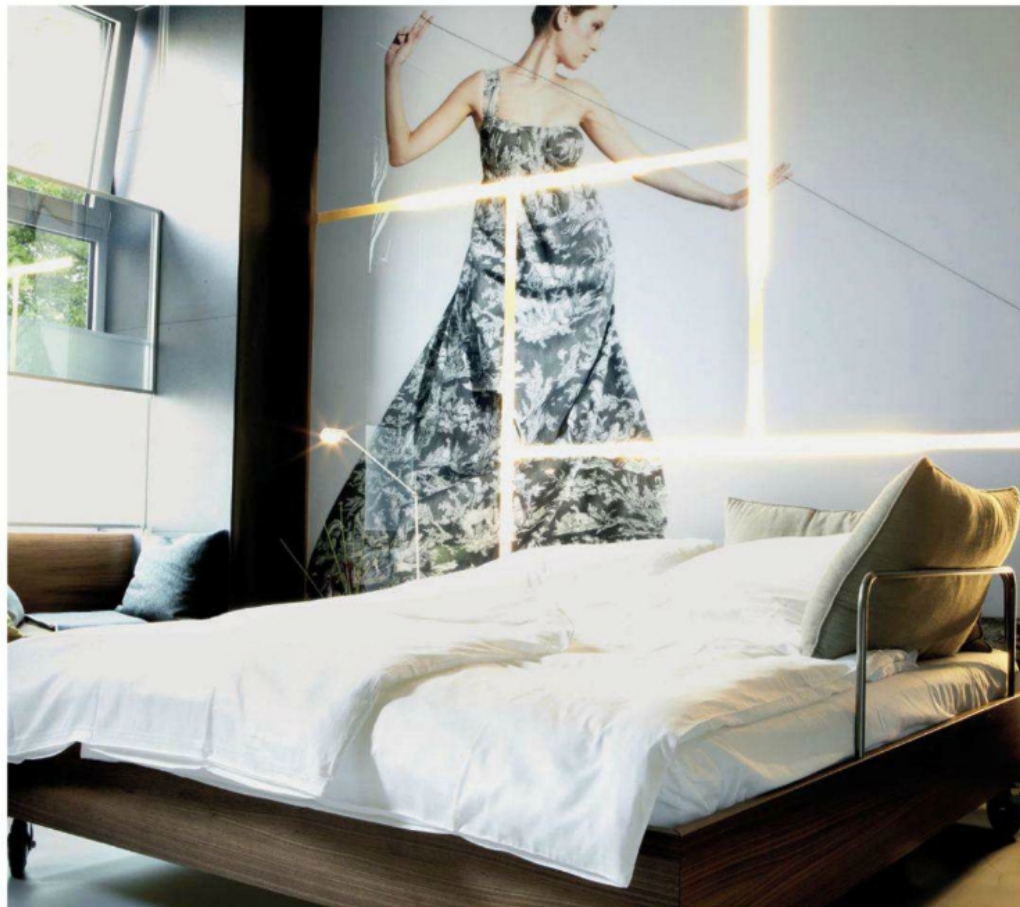
Pie Under the Sky

In western Wisconsin, **pizza grows on farms**. At popular weekly picnics (BYO lawn chairs and drinks), pizza is pulled from a wood-burning oven by the same farmer who produced nearly every ingredient, from onions to sausage. Near Lake Pepin, A to Z Produce and Bakery started the trend in 1998; it's become a Tuesday pilgrimage across the upper Midwest. Now more farms fire up their ovens and claim other nights of the week, each offering a distinct slice of pastoral charm: A to Z overlooks rolling hills; Cochrane's Suncrest Gardens is tucked into a wooded sliver of a valley; Nelson's Stone Barn was built in 1896. —Doug Mack

THE STAY

Getting Horizontal

A CURTAIN IS ALWAYS RISING in Vienna, Austria, with vacant shops now playing new roles as stand-alone hotel rooms. A trio of architects launched **Urbanauts** ("city explorers"), a network of street-level "lofts" that combine with the funky shops and galleries of Vienna's Fourth District to form "horizontal" hotels. "Our breakfast room is Cafe Goldegg around the corner; our spa is the Moroccan hammam next door," says Theresia Kohlmayr, a hotelier's daughter who helped conceive the project as a creative way to adapt the empty storefronts dotting the area. Since the opening two summers ago, about 400 guests have stayed in the original room (120 euros), a former tailor shop that has been retrofitted with layered window panels that can be adjusted for privacy (or voyeurism). The team plans to roll out three more rooms this year and envisions ten total throughout the Fourth District. Guests check in with a secret code and get the inside track on the neighborhood, receiving bicycles to borrow and a map recommending local businesses that range from holistic pharmacy Saint Charles Apotheke to nightspot Xpedit Kiosk. "This hotel's lobby," says Urbanauts partner Christian Knapp, "is the city." —JOANN GRECO



In a previous life: Decor in this Vienna hotel room pays homage to its past as a tailor shop.

THE PERSON

Crossover Artist

TALIAN TENOR Andrea Bocelli lives and travels the way he sings—with deep passion and introspection. Blind since childhood, the onetime piano-bar singer from Tuscany gracefully maneuvers across cultural boundaries and musical styles as a star of both opera halls and pop charts. History's highest-earning classical solo artist (with some 80 million albums sold), Bocelli continues to share his love for the world's people on his latest album, *Passione*, featuring six languages and duet partners ranging from Jennifer Lopez to the late Édith Piaf.

What are your favorite sounds of the world? My life is made out of sound. I live in the Tuscan countryside, so my day starts with the sounds of farms, of chickens and horses and other animals. Those sounds are most dear to me. When I go to a city such as New York, all the noise mutes out nature. But the music of silence always follows me, and in silence I can concentrate and develop ideas.

What is the Theater of Silence? An amphitheater I created in Laiatico, Italy, in the countryside that I love. Most of the year the sounds of nature reign, but on one day a year in July, thousands of people from all over the world come for a concert. It's beautiful how on that one day the silence is broken by the sounds of so many languages.

How do you approach foreign places? I've come to distinguish and expect certain sounds and smells when I get to a place. I know what kind of smell will greet me in Egypt; I know what smell will welcome me in the United

States. When I go to a warm country, as soon as they open the door of the airplane, different smells get in my nose—of cinnamon and other spices.

Any travel regrets? I'm like an athlete—I need to be in pristine condition to perform,

so it can be frustrating that I can't allow myself to experience all there is to do in a place. For instance, I'm amazed by Chinese cuisine—in the past, I've eaten all kinds of things, such as jellyfish. I would eat anything if I didn't have to be so careful.

What's your Tuscan secret?

In the areas of La Sterza and Poggioncino, where I was born, there are simple paths along the river where I ride my horse that not many people know about. The beauty of their simplicity is what I love.

—Katie Knorovsky



Andrea Bocelli at New York City's Lincoln Center.

DAISANN McLANE

*Bad Timing,
Good Vacation*

I AM TEMPTED TO ENTER the oh-so-charming new Manhattan café, but then I notice a recent rave review proudly hanging in the window. Is the café now so popular that it won't accommodate a walk-in customer like me? ¶ Fearful of being turned away, I hesitate outside, then recover my gumption and swan in boldly without a reservation. ¶ To my astonishment, the manager is at my side in a blink of an eye with a menu: "Table for one?" Later, as I wait for my order to arrive, I pull out my mobile phone and impulsively call a spa that I have been longing to try out. "Why, yes, we do have massage appointments available today," trills the spa receptionist at the other end of the line.

Sometimes, traveling in a packed, noisy city is an endurance test; right now, though, I'm like a mild-mannered reporter suddenly gifted with superpowers. Taxis screech to the curb at the slightest flutter of my palm, and every bus I catch has an empty—window!—seat. More than eight million people live in New York City, but today it is mine, all mine. Mainly because I am staking my claim to the city when almost nobody else wants it: on a 92-degree Saturday afternoon in the last week of July.

When it comes to crowds, I've always been a grumpy traveler, and many of my travel habits evolved from my desire to ditch the pack. Does the guidebook suggest the road that leads to the right? I turn left. Is everybody planning trips based on colorful memoirs about living in Venice and Provence? I head for little-known wine regions in Spain, to castles with difficult-to-pronounce names in Serbia. I compile lists of natural wonders that aren't quite wonderful enough for UNESCO World Heritage designations. I go for cool-sounding second- or third-tier cities in China and South Korea.

Up until a few years ago, my road-less-traveled instincts served me well. I never had much trouble finding places I could enjoy without the headache of making hotel and museum reservations months in advance, and then standing in a long line, craning my neck over the heads of strangers to see the views.

But that was before wanderlust swept the planet. More than a

billion people traveled for pleasure last year. Even worse: Many travelers aren't keeping their secret places to themselves. Nowadays, to travel is to "share"—not just with family and friends but with your 5,000 Twitter followers. As travelers, we navigate a world that is getting smaller every day, bursting at the seams with others keen on exploring it too. This calls for new strategies.

I have one, and with a nod to the great New Orleans piano player Dr. John, I call it: "Wrong Place, Wrong Time." Decades ago, with more time than money for travel, I learned what budget travelers learn: It's cheaper to go somewhere when nobody else is going there. Of course there is usually a good reason why a particular season is "off," as I discovered the first time I booked a discounted cottage for a September Caribbean vacation. Worrisome breezes welcomed me to the island, along with a shout from the hotel manager, perched on a ladder and nailing boards across the windows: "Hurricane comin'!"

All night the winds wailed. Palm fronds and coconuts tumbled to the ground as the storm passed (thankfully a hundred miles, give or take, out at sea). Huddled with the hotel staff and one other off-season guest at the hotel bar, I drank rum and shared stories until dawn to the flicker of emergency candles. The next morning I woke up with a whopping hangover, and a revelation: When you

travel against the calendar, the upside isn't just economic. Thanks to my "bad" timing, I came home from my budget-friendly vacation with something much better: a traveler's tale.

By choosing to visit the wrong place at the wrong time, not only do I lose the crowds; I almost always experience my surroundings, especially familiar ones, in an unexpected way. This is where dreaded jet lag can be a friend; it ensures that you'll be awake and eager to roam the streets of, say, Hong Kong or London during the wee hours, when those restless cities slow to a crawl and seem to turn into a grainy black and white, like a silent movie.

Even when you're not jumping across time zones, shifting your travel activities to a "wrong" hour can mean having a place to yourself, leading to a feeling that you're somewhere new without having left the same destination. The California geyser that fizzes at midday to the applause of crowds turns, you discover, into a mighty, erupting dragon in moonlit solitude. The Mexican market town that honks with cars and pickup trucks all morning softens into a Gabriel García Márquez short story during the dead hours of the afternoon siesta.

Sweat is trickling down the backs of my knees in the 92-degree streets of New York in July. The heat rising from the asphalt is so thick and intense that I can see it ripple. If the taxi that just pulled up to whisk me to my next city adventure has no air-conditioning, I may melt in the backseat.

Traveling at the wrong time, against the clock and calendar, isn't always the easiest or most comfortable ride. But the destination will be yours, and yours alone. In the wrong place, at the wrong time, I'll take Manhattan, with pleasure. ■



Heading to London in winter? It will be all yours.

DAISANN McLANE divides her time between New York and Hong Kong. Follow her on Twitter, @Daisann_McLane.

Switzerland.
get natural.



Switzerland – it's even more Swiss than you think.

MySwitzerland.com

Switzerland has absolutely everything you need to enjoy your most authentic vacation ever. The country has a whole host of traditions and customs to choose from, be it alphorn playing, flag throwing or wood carving, all surrounded, of course, by the most beautiful landscapes. To find out how to enjoy the most authentic Swiss vacations, visit MySwitzerland.com/summer.



Stanserhorn, Lucerne and Lake Lucerne Region

Book
your summer
vacation now.

[MySwitzerland.com/
summer](http://MySwitzerland.com/summer)

Swiss Travel System.



 **SWISS**

BOYD MATSON

Tales of the Weird and Wonderful

WITHOUT A HINT of embarrassment or irony, June of Boca Raton, Florida, explains that her toaster is possessed by the devil. How has she come to such a conclusion? ¶ “I heard a voice say, ‘I am the devil,’” she replies. To validate her claims for the *Today* show story I’m reporting, she produces supporting evidence—several slices of burnt toast with messages scraped into their blackened surfaces, allegedly by the devil. One has the number 666, another a pitchfork; a third says, “Satan Lives.” ¶ The chrome toaster is given a chance to prove its innocence or guilt while the camera

rolls. As the woman struggles to insert a slice of bread, she warns, “It seems to be aware.” Within seconds, a flash and flames shoot from the coils. Finally, when asked why she keeps this appliance in her kitchen, she gives a simple answer: “When all is said and done, it makes good toast.”

To my surprise, that interview from 1984 recently went viral on the Internet, inspiring me to reflect on some of the other characters I’ve encountered during my lifetime on the road. I’ve always had a fondness for people who have veered off the interstate and are wandering the back roads, navigating life without a map. Their stories may strain the bounds of credibility, but their tales are nothing if not memorable.

In southern California, I recognize a fellow traveler in Ruth—or Uriel, as she’s known at the Unarius Academy of Science in El Cajon. In fact, she insists not to be from this planet. Now, I’ve occasionally suspected that certain acquaintances were not of this world, but never before has anyone stated as much so directly. Uriel, however, does not keep secrets, telling me (and anyone who will listen) that she has lived on 33 planets. She wears a ball gown that doubles as a 3-D map of the galaxy, studded with glowing orbs that represent the many planets where she’s had a mortgage. It’s a confirmation dress of sorts—confirmation that she’s a stranger in a strange land. But why did Uriel wind up on *our* primitive little ball of dirt floating

through the cosmos? It seems she came to Earth to prepare a landing site for her “brothers from other planets.” Uriel passed away before the spaceships were to have arrived in 2001, and last time I checked in El Cajon, the ships had not landed. Maybe the flights have been delayed due to intergalactic solar flares, or maybe the space brothers are using the Maya calendar, which has proven easy to misunderstand.

Over in Page, Arizona, I meet a couple who seem to be a perfect match. The wife makes wallets, hats, and lampshades from fragments of old beer cans that she stitches together. But it’s her husband’s job that really grabs my interest. He collects the beer cans from along the highway—or, when he can’t find enough empties, he takes it upon himself to drink sufficient quantities of beer to keep his wife stocked with art supplies. Near Albuquerque, New Mexico, I meet another artist, Tony. He makes kachina dolls for peace out of scrap metal sold by the pound from the nuclear weapons lab, Sandia.

In rural Arkansas, I find a couple who earn a living by teaching chickens to play the piano. In California, under the Joshua trees off the highway near Hesperia, a guy named Miles gives me a tour of his open-air home that’s part roadside attraction, part folk-art emporium. To me it looks like a couch and a defunct refrigerator.

On a small platform, Miles tap-dances, tells stories, and quotes poetry for tourists who stop by. As we’re saying goodbye, he hands me a bank statement, explaining, “I don’t want you to think I’m a bum because I sleep in my car out here.” The account balance is \$98,000.

And for years during the 1980s, wherever I go in the United States people claim to have seen, spoken to, or slept with Elvis after his 1977 death—or, as they would put it, “his alleged death.” A woman in Atlanta swears to me, in front of her current husband, that she had lived with Elvis for three years; as proof she produces fuzzy pictures of a heavysset guy with hair dyed black. She is positive he was the real thing, because

he always carried a briefcase full of pills. A gas station attendant in upstate New York shows me the autograph that “Elvis” signed after filling up his tank at the self-service pump.

But for every person who promises to have encountered Elvis posthumously, I meet at least a dozen others who are pretending to be the King. In Boone, Iowa, a woman pulls on a jumpsuit, a pair of sunglasses, and a black wig to lip-synch to Elvis records at the local Elks lodge. In Chicago a 12-year-old boy in a jumpsuit shakes his hips as the hired entertainment at small parties. Unsurprisingly, I see many overweight guys doing their versions of “Elvis: the later years.” My main takeaway? Girth plus hair dye does not equal talent.

I may not share the lifestyle choices or even the same perception of reality with the characters I’ve met on my travels, but I will always appreciate their commitment to carving out little spaces of their own. Their stories make the world a more fascinating, entertaining, and curious place to explore. And when it’s all said and done, they make good toast. ■



The Unarius Academy's cosmic welcome wagon.

EXPLORE YOUR WILD SIDE WITH A

ZOOLOCATION



If adventure is in you, Travelodge is for you. Get 2 free kids' tickets to a participating zoo when you stay a minimum of 2 nights at Travelodge.* Now you can enjoy the excitement of the zoo along with free Internet, free Bear Bites Breakfast, and the best rates, guaranteed. That's a ZOOcation, Travelodge-style.

TRAVELODGE.COM
STAY CLOSE TO ADVENTURE™



Travelodge is a proud supporter of black bear conservation.

For details about our Guaranteed Best Rates program, please visit Travelodge.com. © 2013 Travelodge Hotels, Inc. All rights reserved. All hotels are independently owned and operated. *Only available at U.S. Travelodge properties.

CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT

The Truth About Bedbugs

IT'S BECOME A RITE OF SUMMER for the talking heads on the local news programs: a hysteria-inducing hotel bedbug epidemic story. The teary tales of vacations ruined, the zooms on the tiny red welts, and the infographic of the life cycle of the tiny invaders whose Latin name, *Cimex lectularius*, makes them sound like villains in a summer blockbuster. It makes for must-see TV, but what should you believe? Let's exterminate some of the common misconceptions. ¶ 1. It is a new problem. Actually, no. Bedbugs like to live in wood and fabric, close to their food supply, which is us. They are long-term tenants, having infested homes and inns for thousands of years. "So what has changed?" asks

Jody Gangloff-Kaufmann, an urban entomologist at Cornell University. We've started paying attention to bedbugs. "Public awareness skyrocketed," she says. Thanks to news stories, TV reports, and blogs dedicated to *Cimex* sightings, just about every bedbug report is treated with only slightly less excitement than a bird flu outbreak. In fact, says Gangloff-Kaufmann, the bugs weren't as bad in 2012 as they were in 2010, but the coverage continues, making it seem to many travelers as if bedbugs are on an unstoppable march to conquer our planet.

2. You will bring bedbugs home from your travels. You might, if you happen to sleep in a bed with bedbugs, and if you leave your clothes and luggage on the bed, and if those bedbugs decide to climb from the infested bed to your luggage, and if you unpack your luggage on your bed, and if the bugs disembark and set up house in your bed. That's a lot of ifs. A quick inspection of the mattress and behind the headboard of the hotel room should reveal bedbugs' shed skins, eggs, and hatched eggs even in daylight (when bugs are not active), and if that doesn't give them away, then the telltale overripe raspberry odor will. For those with an overabundance of caution, Louis Sorkin, an entomologist with New York's American Museum of Natural History, suggests not putting clothes and luggage on your bed when traveling. Instead, he advises, "hang up the coat and place luggage in the bathroom when you first arrive." And

when you return home, put your luggage in the garage and your traveling clothes in the laundry immediately.

3. Bedbug bites are painful and cause disease. No and no. Half of the hotel guests who get bitten don't even know it; the other half may experience some itching and skin inflammation for a few days. According to Jerome Goddard, a professor of medical and veterinary entomology at Mississippi State University and a leading bedbug expert, "It's no worse than a mosquito." And hope for a bedbug over a mosquito when it comes to carrying disease. Bedbugs have been studied extensively as possible carriers for everything from hepatitis to HIV. The result? Nada. I asked Goddard if he'd ever been bitten by one of the bugs in his laboratory, to which he replied, "How do you think I've fed them all these years?"

4. If they're in one room, then they're in every room of the hotel. Wrong. "In many hotels, the infestations are limited," says Michael Potter, a professor of urban and medical entomology at the University of Kentucky. "Just because you see a hotel named in a bedbug registry website doesn't mean all the rooms are infested." As a matter of fact, some hotels may have only one or two rooms affected by the blood-sucking insects, so fleeing the hotel may be an irrational move if you see evidence of the bugs. Instead of over-

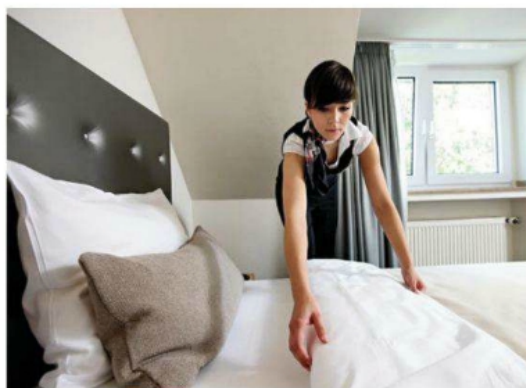
reacting, insist politely on an insect-free room.

5. Online bedbug reviews are trustworthy. Not really. Reports are often inaccurate and outdated. Even attempts to quantify bedbug activity in a more scientific way often fall short. Consider exterminator Orkin's annual bedbug report, which in 2012 crowned Chicago as America's bedbug capital, followed by Detroit and Los Angeles. According to Orkin, the least bedbuggy cities are Springfield, Illinois; Portland, Oregon; and Sioux City, Iowa. Problem is, Chicago is a major city with lots of people (and Orkin branches). Sioux City? Not so much. So it's folly to use an online database of

bedbug sightings or even a more scientific survey of insect sightings to plan your vacation.

You'll find plenty of jittery hotel guests this summer who think they're bound to sleep with bedbugs. One commonly cited survey by pest management company Steritech claims a quarter of the hotel rooms in the United States needed treatment for bedbugs, but few bother to note that even if rooms were deemed to need treatment, that doesn't necessarily mean they were infested, nor that guests would have been bitten. And bear in mind, these pest-control folks have a product to sell. Kind of like, ahem, the news media.

Truth is, these insects can pop up just about anywhere, not only in hotels. They're in apartments, churches, hospitals, laundromats, movie theaters, and offices right in your neighborhood. Wherever there's blood, you'll find the bugs. There's really no escaping them this summer or any summer. What can you escape from? The hype. So switch the channel or turn off the TV and relax. You're on vacation. ■



This hotel doesn't have bedbugs, but others may.

CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT addresses readers' travel problems. E-mail your story to celliott@ngs.org.

TRINIDAD **OR** TOBAGO?



Best-in-class highway fuel efficiency **and** 7-passenger seating.*

*And is better. The 2013 **EXPLORER**.*

Only Ford gives you EcoBoost® fuel economy and a whole lot more. ford.com



Go Further

*EPA-estimated rating of 20 city/28 hwy/23 combined mpg. Available 2.0L FWD. Actual mileage will vary.
Class is Large Utilities, Non-Hybrid.

COSTAS CHRIST

Elephants and Ivory

IN THE 1980S, I DID A STINT as a wildlife researcher in Kenya. I witnessed a decade of unprecedented slaughter of African elephants by poachers, out to profit from rising ivory demand in Asia's fast-growing economies of the day. By 1989, more than 600,000 elephants had been killed—half of Africa's entire population (Kenya alone lost 85 percent of its herd), leading to a global ban shortly thereafter on the trade and sale of ivory by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Following the ivory ban, things started to improve: The number of elephants killed illegally declined, and their populations also began to rebound in Kenya and Tanzania. ¶ But like a cancer

that slows only to return and metastasize, the killing fields are back. Dozens of elephants are currently being gunned down daily by high-tech poachers wielding AK-47s, part of highly organized international criminal networks. An estimated 25,000 African elephants were killed in 2011 alone (out of a population of about 500,000). And since 2007, the illegal ivory trade has more than doubled. If the massacres do not stop, our children could be the last generation to see an African elephant in the wild. As travelers, we can—and must—do something about it. Here are the crucial actions to take.

Support an unequivocal and permanent ivory ban. A few African governments with pockets of healthy herds have large stockpiles of ivory from culling operations and smuggler confiscations. Countries such as South Africa and Botswana want controlled legal sales of their ivory stocks, with the income providing funding for conservation. The argument has been that it would help drive down global prices and undercut the illegal black market trade. The problem: It hasn't worked. CITES already tested the sale of ivory stockpiles, with the unfortunate result that ivory prices dramatically increased. Conservationists point out that these legal ivory transactions sent mixed signals and reignited global demand, contributing to the current epidemic of "blood ivory." "The ivory trade has never and can never be managed sustainably, nor without total dominance

of corruption, which is why we support a complete moratorium on ivory sales and the destruction of existing and future stockpiles," reads a statement issued by a group of influential scientists, including Joyce Poole and Cynthia Moss.

Choose a tour operator that actively supports elephant conservation. What can be managed sustainably is tourism, and in Africa, travelers can play a vital role. When you book a safari, ask if the tour visits community wildlife conservancies, which are one of the best hopes for saving Africa's endangered elephants (three that do are Big Five Tours, Austin-Lehman Adventures, and our own National Geographic Expeditions).

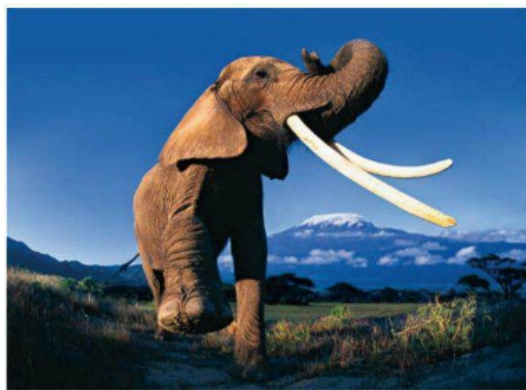
Refuse to buy ivory for any reason. It turns out that the Catholic Church is a huge consumer of ivory—used in religious icons and sold as tourist souvenirs. (Vatican City did not sign the CITES ivory ban.) And countries with large Catholic populations, such as the Philippines, are among the largest markets for ivory religious carvings. The Vatican has recently proposed raising awareness about elephant poaching through its radio programs. But a clearly worded statement from Rome to Catholic clergy worldwide condemning any buying or selling of ivory by the faithful would be more effective. Help deliver that message by e-mailing the Rev. Federico Lombardi at the Vatican (lombardi@press.va).

Demand that China end its use of ivory. The future of the African elephant ultimately rests with one country—China, by far the world's largest market for ivory products. Ivory sales are surging right along with today's middle-class prosperity. While hoarding ivory to drive up prices, the government is also sponsoring ivory-carving schools, licensing carving factories, and allowing more retail outlets to meet rising demand. Arguments in defense of age-old cultural traditions of ivory use in China ring hollow when the survival of a species is at stake and synthetic substitutes are easily available. Last year, basketball legend Yao Ming traveled to Kenya and returned shaken by the "harrowing experience"

of witnessing how illegal ivory is obtained. His message: "Only elephants should own ivory." It is a message that the Chinese Foreign Trade Management Department Economic Service needs to hear. Send an e-mail to ziming_wan@163.com.

Join with other elephant lovers. Many organizations work for wildlife conservation. Two that focus on protecting African elephants are Save the Elephants (www.savetheelephants.org) and the U.K.-based Tusk Trust (www.tusk.org).

With the future of African elephants hanging by a thread, this is the moment for action. Back in Kenya, I recall being mesmerized as the matriarch of an elephant family lumbered over to some bleached elephant bones. She picked up one in her trunk. She held it, then carried it for several feet before gently laying it down. The other elephants followed, inspecting and stroking the bones. I felt certain they recognized one of their own. Indeed, if we don't act now, bones are all we'll have left of these intelligent, majestic creatures. ■



Tusk, tusk: a species in dire trouble.

COSTAS CHRIST writes about the changing world of travel. E-mail him through travel_talk@ngs.org.



Clockwise from top left: the Baltimore Museum of Art, a Creative Alliance music show, zesty bar fare, and Patterson Park.

Pride of Baltimore

BEYOND THE HARBOR, THIS SEAPORT IS FULL OF SURPRISES

By KATIE KNOROVSKY

A CIVIL WAR-ERA cannon points its barrel at the Baltimore Harbor from Federal Hill Park, above a sentinel of waterfront luxury condos. Yet the real eye-catcher stands between—a three-story kaleidoscope of glass shards spackled onto the American Visionary Art Museum, an exuberant haven for self-taught artists. Such microcosms play out all around this Maryland port, where centuries of history loom large and a newly buoyant tax base adds gloss, while a mosaic of colorful neighborhoods, vibrant art and music scenes, and a deep-rooted sports culture still shines through. “Baltimore tends to be an informal town that can make fun of itself,” says local arts advocate Megan Hamilton. “There’s an authenticity here that people appreciate.”

DAY ONE

MORNING *Step into the Gilded Age*

Before Old Bay Seasoning and Michael Phelps’s Olympic records, another Baltimore contribution changed America: the steam-powered locomotive. To glimpse how the rail rush shaped the city—and filled the coffers of the elite—head to Mount Vernon, populated with the grand town houses of Gilded Age industrialists and the free institutions they gave the city, such as the palazzo-style **Walters Art Museum**, with a 17th-century cabinet of curiosities, and the **Peabody Library**, with tiered ironwork and preserved tomes under a latticed skylight. Farther north, tree-lined Charles Village leads to the **Evergreen House**, the “country” estate of the Garrett family railroad dynasty. A guided tour of the pale yellow mansion

reveals rare Tiffany lamps, a Leon Bakst-designed theater with Russian folk stencils, and telling relics such as an opulent opium bed. The Edgar Degas and Diego Rivera paintings in the home serve as appetizers for the free **Baltimore Museum of Art**, with the modern-art anthology of Claribel and Etta Cone (500 Matisses, 114 Picassos, and thousands of others) that hung in the sisters’ Baltimore apartments in the early 20th century. Andy Warhol’s monumental “Last Supper” print holds the spotlight in the new \$24.5 million Contemporary Wing.

AFTERNOON *Meet the hons*

Baltimore thrives on the tightrope walk between highbrow and lowbrow, so balance your cultured morning with the kitsch klatch of Hampden, where the beehive

hairdos of brassy 1960s diner waitresses—aka “hons”—endure thanks to native filmmaker John Waters (*Hairspray*, *Pink Flamingos*). These days businesswoman Denise Whiting has taken up the charge at her retro **Café Hon**—going so far as to trademark “hon,” only to give the term back after months of hate mail. For an over-the-top lunch without the controversy, **Golden West Café** serves Elvis Pancakes any hour, piled with bananas and stuffed with bacon. Tucked among vintage and antiques emporiums along “the Avenue” (actually 36th Street), **Sixteen Tons** sells sea-mineral aftershave and men’s salvaged denim inside a 19th-century bank building, and **Atomic Books** stocks graphic zines and Iggy Pop bobbleheads. A world apart, the rehabbed **Clipper Mill** and **Union Mill** are worth detouring down the hill for Japanese cold-brewed iced coffee at **Artifact** and blown glass from a Dale Chihuly protégé at **Corradetti studio and gallery**.

EVENING *Creative commons*

If Mount Vernon says 19th century and Hampden smacks of the 1960s, the story of today’s Baltimore unfolds in Highlandtown, an immigrant neighborhood of Formstone row houses huddled east of **Patterson Park’s** restored 1890 pagoda (its spiraling staircase open to climb Sunday afternoons through October). “Highlandtown is classic Baltimore—white marble stoops and painted window screens [a local folk-art tradition], great ethnic restaurants, and an old-fashioned shopping stretch,” says Megan Hamilton, co-founder of the **Creative Alliance**, operating out of the neon-marqueed Patterson Theater, built in 1910, which stages everything from burlesque to serious jazz. No matter the billing, expect a convivial crowd lingering in the glow of the mural—a swirl of orange and red—at the on-site **Marquee Lounge** for its bistro menu (wasabi edamame, beer-braised pork belly).

DAY TWO

MORNING *The feminine mystique*

Oprah got her break as a Baltimore news anchor in the 1970s—merely one in a line of powerful women to use the city as a launchpad. A quiet edge of Little Italy, east of the Inner Harbor, testifies to three other history makers. Down the block from an alfresco bocce court and hydrants striped red, white, and green is a sign for “Via Nancy D’Alessandro Pelosi.” The speaker of the House grew up on Albemarle Street as the mayor’s daughter and surely developed her famed sweet tooth at old-world

bakeries such as **Vaccaro’s**, where you can zip up your day with espresso and cannoli. Nearby stands the modest brick colonial where Mary Pickersgill stitched the 15-star flag that, after flying over Baltimore’s Fort McHenry in 1814, inspired Francis Scott Key to compose his ode to the “star-spangled banner.” The original flag is preserved at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., but here a glass remix sparkles in the sun, fronting the interpretive **Star-Spangled Banner Flag House**. Next door, the **Reginald F. Lewis Museum** honors Maryland native Harriet Tubman’s legacy (and the 100th anniversary of her death) with contemporary photos and art by Underground Railroad descendants (through June 23).

gold-flamed memorial to Polish victims of World War II. Chain stores and a Four Seasons have recently moved in, but local standbys include jewel-box **Amaryllis** and wine boutique **Bin 604**. Follow the Harbor Promenade west toward the Inner Harbor, a riot of attractions ranging from dragon-shaped rental paddleboats and an armada of tall ships—including the 1854 U.S.S. *Constellation*—to the shark-finned **National Aquarium** and **Harborplace**, a complex of shopping and dining pavilions. Cool off by the “dancing” water fountain on the harbor’s west side, not far from the Orioles’ retro ballpark that spawned a generation of imitations, **Camden Yards**, or join commuters aboard a blue-and-white water taxi.



Summer evenings invite outdoor dining at the Promenade Café in Harbor East.

AFTERNOON *Water world*

Once second to Ellis Island in port arrivals, Baltimore’s harbor front has anchored the city since the 1700s, bringing in a heady blend—bawdy sailors and prostitutes, Frederick Douglass and Edgar Allan Poe, and, now, rowdy pubgoers and joggers on the seven-mile **Harbor Promenade**. The harbor offers endless places to lunch on the Maryland blue crab, with **Duda’s Tavern** in Fells Point serving one of the best crab cakes (no filler). A cheap pint of National Bohemian (“Natty Boh”) is the classic pairing, but unlike the winking Mr. Boh, Resurrection ale and Heavy Seas Loose Cannon are actually brewed nearby. Walk off lunch along shop-lined Thames and Broadway and on to **Harbor East**, an upscale retail enclave radiating around a

EVENING *Local sparklers*

Before the sun begins to set, vie for a spot on the terrace of **Waterfront Kitchen**, a relative newcomer on the tip of Thames Street, jutting into the harbor. Its upmarket “seed to plate” menu highlights Maryland watercress and Chesapeake Bay rockfish, but the view of the red-neon Domino Sugars sign is the true toast of the house. Or water-taxi across the harbor to the Rusty Scupper stop near the glittering **American Visionary Art Museum** for its top-floor restaurant, **Mr. Rain’s Fun House**. From there, continue your culture quest for some drama downtown at **Center Stage**—now celebrating 50 years—to the city’s latest designated arts district, Westside, with the new **Everyman Theatre** in the shadow of the century-old, crenellated Bromo Seltzer clock tower. ■



Tamron has garnered international acclaim for its lenses, including seven consecutive EISA awards, one of the industry's most prestigious awards.



Focal length: 270mm
Exposure: F/8 1/800 sec ISO200
Aperture priority mode



Focal length: 18mm
Exposure: F/8 1/1000 sec ISO200
Aperture priority mode

Just one lens for every moment.

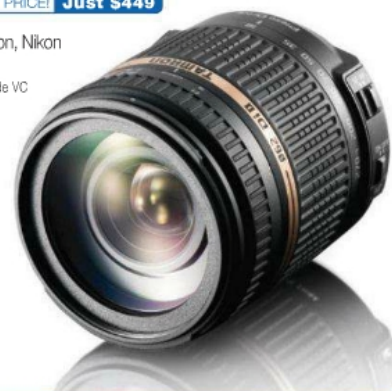
18-270mm all-in-one™ ZOOM LENS

You're not just taking pictures — you're creating memories. The versatile Tamron 15X all-in-one 18-270mm lens effortlessly zooms from wide to telephoto so you're able to capture all of your favorite people, places, and things without changing lenses. Just 3.8 inches long and weighing an ultra light 15.9 ounces, the compact lens is as easy to carry as it is to use. Vibration Compensation (VC) technology eliminates camera shake, while the Piezo Drive ensures faster, quieter precision autofocus. Don't get frustrated with a basic kit lens when you're trying to get closer to the important subjects in your life. Just one lens. For all life's moments.

NOW AT A NEW LOW PRICE! Just \$449

(Model B008) For Canon, Nikon and Sony® DSLRs.

*Sony mount does not include VC as stabilization is built into the Sony camera body.



www.tamron-usa.com

TAMRON
New eyes for industry

WEAR-EVER YOU ROAM

ADVENTURE CLOTHING THAT PLAYS AS HARD AS YOU DO. Whether you're on a day trip or a three week expedition, your clothes need to perform. Lightweight, durable, and quick drying, our apparel will keep you protected and comfortable.

EXOFFICIO



South Australia

Mari Grey and Yann Mourier enjoy some french press at Kangaluna Bush Camp in the Gawler Ranges of South Australia.

▶ AVAILABLE AT A SPECIALTY RETAILER NEAR YOU.

Learn more at www.exofficio.com

© EXOFFICIO 2013

Starting at just \$6,000,
it's easy to find your AWAY.

When you go RVing, AWAY is closer and
more affordable than you might think.



FOLDING CAMPING TRAILER



TRUCK CAMPER



TRAVEL TRAILER



"EXPANDABLE" TRAVEL TRAILER



SPORT UTILITY RV



FIFTH-WHEEL TRAVEL TRAILER



TYPE B MOTORHOME



TYPE C MOTORHOME



TYPE A MOTORHOME

Snap a photo of this tag
with your smartphone
to find an RV dealer,
watch videos, and more.



GoRVing.com

FAMILY TIME

Surfing San Diego

KIDS GO 'ROUND THE WORLD IN BALBOA PARK

1. Jump on a century-old carousel, with original European hand-carved animals, for a five-minute whirl. **2.** See how your face changes as you age, and peer through a microscope at real human cells at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. **3.** Visit the House of Pacific Relations International Cottages between 2 and 3:30 p.m. on Sundays to experience traditional costumes, food, and dance from a different country each week. **4.** Find "Showa," a five-year-old fish that lives in the koi pond at the Japanese Friendship Garden. **5.** Have lunch (with a side of cheese fries) and watch a ball game at the Home Plate Bar & Grill inside the Hall of Champions Sports Museum. **6.** At the WorldBeat Cultural Center, learn how medicinal plants are used around the world. **7.** Explore Palm Canyon Trail, home to a group of century-old palm trees, and count the elephant-ear-shaped leaves from the wooden bridge. **8.** Enjoy a free concert from one of the largest outdoor pipe organs in the world at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion on Sundays. **9.** Ride the U-Fly-It flight simulator at the Kids' Aviation Action Hangar in the San Diego Air and Space Museum, where the wind tunnel makes it feel like the real deal. **10.** Check out Louie Mattar's souped-up '47 Cadillac, which has a fridge, washing machine, shower, and a kitchen sink, at the San Diego Automotive Museum. —LAURA WILLARD



Ornamental Casa del Prado features live theater performances in Balboa Park.



Away

*is a place that's
not on any map.
But you know it
when you find it.*

What's your idea of AWAY? Wherever or whatever it is, an RV is the best way to find it on your terms, your timetable, your itinerary. And it's more affordable than you might think. To learn more, visit GoRVing.com and see an RV dealer.



*Find your *Away**

Go RVing®

MAKE IT

Maine

WATERY WILDERNESS

Take a half million acres of state and national park land, add 3,500 miles of dramatic coastline, and you have the perfect playground for lovers of all things wild and beautiful. Maine's rugged shore offers the best sailing in the East, or you can explore in more detail by paddling the many ocean bays, harbors, and tidal rivers.

With 6,000 lakes and ponds, kayaking and canoeing adventures are endless. In Maine, you can explore 348 miles of the **Northern Forest Canoe Trail**—a 740-mile paddling route that traces a fascinating history of the waterways of the Northeast. Within the trail, discover the **Allagash Wilderness Waterway**—a 92-mile-long corridor of navigable bodies of water, featuring intriguing ice caves and fossils. And there are many other rivers ideal for rafting and fishing trips, with water varying from flat to white: The **Kennebec** journeys from **Moosehead Lake** down to **Bath**; the **Dead** flows through quiet western Maine; and the **Penobscot**, Maine's longest, has remote branches originating along the Canadian border that converge and flow through populated areas such as **Bangor** before emptying into the Atlantic.

ON FOOT IN ACADIA

Imagine a rocky coast, an old lighthouse rising upon a promontory, a foghorn breaking through the morning mist. Picture yourself waking in a quaint inn near **Acadia National Park** and taking a trail on an inlet cliff to watch seabirds nesting on offshore islands, the salt air invigorating you along the way. Seals haul out on rocks in the middle distance, and, far beyond, a whale breaches. In the afternoon you explore the park's mountains, stopping to admire wildflowers or pick a handful of blueberries.

For more adventures afoot, travel inland and hike a section of the **Appalachian Trail**, which ends on **Mount Katahdin**, Maine's highest point. On any outing, you can hire a Registered Maine Guide and profit from a long tradition of wilderness expertise.

Whether you're into day tripping or camping, cold weather or warm, Maine's backcountry delivers what you need for your own private getaway.

From the maritime to the mountainous, from forested trails to loon-haunted lakes, Maine is the kind of place where you can shed the predictable and embrace the spontaneous. Come journey down scenic backroads and wilderness tributaries, and be rewarded with pleasures large and small.



To plan the nature vacation of a lifetime, go to VisitMaine.com.

Photos: Bass Harbor Head lighthouse, Mount Desert Island (top); Rangeley Area (left); Camden Harbor (right)

THE MAINE THING

is

Not needing a GPS to
KNOW YOU'RE IN EXACTLY
the right place.

The fresh Atlantic air. The gorgeous views. The natural, mountainous landscape. It's easy to get lost in all the beauty that is Maine. But for those who may actually get lost, there are Mainers like registered guide Steven Vose, who says there are a hundred places he could go to in Maine and be happy. Those fantastic places that are truly Maine include climbing majestic Mt. Katahdin, hiking beautiful Baxter State Park and fishing on picturesque Rangeley Lake. No matter where you go, a life-changing experience awaits.

Be inspired. Be adventurous. Be yourself. Discover your Maine Thing. To learn more, go to VisitMaine.com.

Maine



STEVEN, Human Compass
Get more insider info at VisitMaine.com

Classic wicker chairs line a sandy beach on Sylt, the largest of Germany's North Frisian Islands.

From Sea to Shining Sylt

OFF-THE-SHIP EXCURSIONS ON GERMANY'S CHARMING FRISIAN ISLE

By JEANINE BARONE

THE RICH AND FAMOUS have long engaged in holiday merrymaking on this narrow strip of land—just 7 miles wide and 21 miles long—battered by the North Sea along Germany's coast. Beyond the designer boutiques and pulsing nightclubs in Kampen and the throngs swarming the beaches and souvenir shops in Westerland, you'll find a terrain of unspoiled beauty on this North Frisian island.

CAPITAL AFFAIRS Rent a bicycle near Westerland's train station and pedal along bike paths (Sylt is networked with 124 miles of them) to Keitum, the capital in the 1800s. Clustered here is the island's best collection of Frisian houses, bearing their characteristic reed thatch roofs and pointed doorway gables. **Kleine Teestube** provides an extensive tea menu and decadent strawberry cream cakes, as well as a courtyard blooming with Sylt roses, tulips, and hydrangeas. Past the whale jawbone entrance, the **Sylt Local History Museum**, set in a former sea captain's home, exhibits antiques such as

an oak-carved mangle board used to press cloth and a hanging crown compass. The petite rooms in the **Old Frisian House** illustrate life during the 18th and 19th centuries with a five-foot-seven-inch bed, a double-sided fireplace/oven between the kitchen and living room, and an in-house horse stable. **St. Severin Church** houses a 4,000-pipe organ and is adorned with whale-shaped brass door handles, reflecting the community's historic roots in the whaling industry. (5 hours)

NATURAL WANDERINGS List, the island's northernmost region, offers secluded, alabaster sands that rim the Ellenbogen, an elbow-shaped peninsula. The wild landscape is perfect for sunning, picnicking, or walking, but fierce currents prohibit swimming. Walk along the nearby coast of **Königshafen**, a shallow bay with mudflats on the Wadden Sea that attract redshanks, red knots, and other shorebirds. Heather planted on all but two of the dunes prevents them from moving. The remaining sandy mounds that shift are termed "walking

dunes." The multimedia presentations at the **Forces of Nature Centre** dramatically illustrate how crabs, birds, and other creatures survive and thrive despite the turbulent North Sea. At **Bistro Austernmeyer**, an informal eatery, you can inspect the oyster beds and devour their specialty: oyster gratin with Pernod butter, chili powder, and curry. (4-5 hours)

LIVING IN THE PAST In **Tinum**, a boardwalk veers over a marshy landscape to the Burg, a foliage-covered, doughnut-shaped rampart that was part of a 1,000-year-old Viking fortress. Near **Wenningstedt**, navigate a short, steep ladder down into **Denghoog**, a 5,200-year-old megalithic burial chamber constructed of massive pink granite boulders, one of which weighs some 40,000 pounds. Just nine miles away in Sylt's most easterly community, **Morsum**, the gray- and rust-hued, 65-foot-high Morsum Cliff serves as a time capsule with diagonal rock layers from widely different geologic eras sandwiched together by glacial forces and erosion. (3-4 hours) ■

Spectacular Switzerland

National Geographic's Digital Nomad shares highlights from his spectacular monthlong journey...



Switzerland.
get.natural.



NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
COM



Andrew Evans, National Geographic's Digital Nomad, roams the world's great destinations—blogging, tweeting, and posting every step of the way. Here, he shares memories and tips from his amazing trip exploring the cultural and natural beauty of Switzerland. He visited the birthplace of the Internet; got to know locals; tasted the finest Swiss chocolate; hiked the Alps' longest glacier; explored the lavish city of Geneva; marveled at the famous Matterhorn peak; and toured the entire country with one single train ticket.

A Digital Nomad's Adventures in Switzerland

"Switzerland is good for the soul, of this I am certain."

—Andrew Evans

What's the best way to get around?

Train! With the Swiss Pass, available from Rail Europe, you can ride trains, trams, metros, buses, and boats for a day, several days, or like me—a whole month. What I loved best was the freedom to wander freely on a single ticket.

If you could eat three things in Switzerland, what would you pick?

A big pot of moitié-moitié cheese fondue, a crispy brown potato rösti, and of course, chocolate.



And if you could drink three things?

Swiss wine from Lavaux (Louis Bovards is a favorite), Apfelschorle (sparkling fresh apple juice), and the curing bubbly waters of St. Moritz!

What surprised you most?

Switzerland is astonishingly diverse—every valley or mountaintop is completely separate and unique from another. Dialect and customs are vastly different from one mile to the next. It's mind-boggling to consider that the cities of Geneva, Zurich, and Lugano are all in the same country.

Does one hike stand out?

Yes, definitely, my hike along the top of Aletsch Glacier. I walked on ice for three days, hopping over crevasses, sleeping in high Alpine huts, and enjoying the highest layer of the Alps. The summer snow was beautiful—it felt like walking on diamonds.

Which villages felt the most authentic?

Celerina in Engadin, Château-d'Oex in Vaud, and Fontana in Ticino. Each one offers its own timeless magic.

Where should extreme adventure addicts head?

Interlaken. The mountains, lakes, and valleys around Interlaken are paradise for skydivers, paragliders, climbers, and mountain bikers.

What are your best after-dark memories?

Summer in Lucerne, in the dwindling twilight, walking along the clear lake, rippled with swans and dotted with stars reflected in the water. I was going to take the bus back to my hotel, but I walked all the way back instead, under an archway of moonlit trees and, finally, across the historic Chapel Bridge.

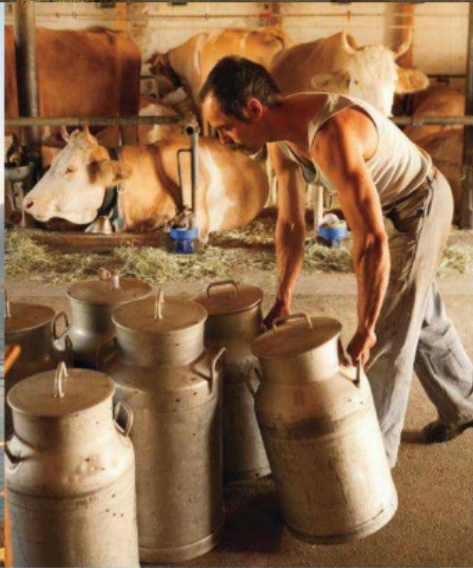
What museum do you wish you could see again?

The Matterhorn Museum in Zermatt. There are so many grand museums throughout Switzerland, but I loved learning about the history of this iconic mountain and the glory and tragedy that lie at the base of this huge rock.

Your top mountaintop?

Stanserhorn (1,898 m) is a peak just outside of Lucerne that makes a wonderful half-day hike up through flower-filled Alpine meadows. The view from the top stretches all the way to Switzerland's borders. Be sure to ride the incredible double-decker Cabrio Cable Car (up or down), which affords a rare in-motion panorama all the way back down.

Photos (left to right): Wine on a terrace vineyard in the Lavaux region; handcrafted delicious Swiss chocolates; the Glacier Express train; the picturesque town of Lucerne. Cover: Hotels and resorts along the shores of Lake Lucerne.



Tips for Swiss Bliss

- + Rent an E-bike. It's very Swiss, the bike paths take you anywhere, and you get an extra push uphill!
- + Go swimming. Switzerland offers some of the cleanest water in the world, so dive in!
- + Don't forget Ticino—the Italian part of Switzerland is *magnifico* and utterly unique. Eat gelato in Ascona and drive the scenic Val Bavona.
- + Do a hut-to-hut hike in the mountains—it's an unbeatable way to absorb the landscape, follow an old Alpine tradition, and make lots of new Swiss friends.
- + Take a break from restaurants and dine at one of the weekly markets in the smaller Swiss towns. Buy directly from the farmer, butcher, or cheesemaker and taste true Switzerland.
- + Learn how and remember to say "thank you very much" in all four official Swiss languages: *merci vilmau* (Swiss German), *merci beaucoup* (French), *grazie mille* (Italian), *gratscha fitg* (Romansch).
- + Check out Switzerland's many World Heritage sites. My personal favorites are Lavaux, Aletsch Glacier, the castles of Bellinzona, and the old city of Berne.
- + Visit the smallest village in Switzerland: Corippo, population 16.

Photos (top to bottom): Outdoor cafe in the Plainpalais neighborhood of Geneva; Montreux, Lake Geneva, and the Dents du Midi mountain range; dairy farmer near Lake Geneva region; St. Moritz in the Engadin Valley.

Swiss Travel Resources

Getting to Switzerland: www.swiss.com

Getting around Switzerland:

Swiss Pass information:
www.swisstravelsystem.ch

For Swiss Pass bookings:
www.myswitzerland.com/rail

More information on select regions:

Engadin St. Moritz:
www.engadin.stmoritz.ch

Lake Geneva Matterhorn Region:
www.lgmr.ch

Lucerne: www.luzern.com

For general information on Switzerland:
www.myswitzerland.com

Nice Bite

SNACKING ON SOCCA IN COASTAL FRANCE

“YOU HAVE TO eat *socca* to understand it,” says Caterina Prochilo, cradling a piping hot slice fresh from Theresa’s copper pan. Socca is a cross between a crepe and a pancake, a thin disc made with chickpea flour, and it’s a specialty of Nice, the unofficial capital of France’s Côte d’Azur. Prochilo, a resident of Nice, takes visitors to **Cours Saleya**, Old Town’s open-air market, to sample the socca at Theresa’s stand, where the behatted grande dame has presided for decades. While socca shares culinary roots with Genoa’s *farinata* and Tuscany’s *cecina*, it has developed its own distinctive style and flavor. Chickpea flour is combined with a mixture of water and olive oil, forming a batter, then baked on the pie-plate-like *plaque* in a wood-fired brick oven. The golden, dimpled cake that emerges—tender on the inside and crisp on the edges—balances the nutty taste of the chickpeas with the tang of ground pepper. The fast food first gained favor in the mid-19th century as a snack for fishermen who would wolf down slices from wagons with charcoal ovens. True to tradition, socca is served in a paper cone, no utensils needed. Amble toward the port and **Chez Pipo**, which has specialized in socca since 1923. Sitting on the terrace with friendly locals, eating a savory slice of socca with a glass of chilled rosé, offers an unforgettable taste of old, and abiding, Nice. —DON GEORGE



Finger food: Chickpea flour bakes into a crisp and tangy treat in Nice, France.



O'AHU: PACIFIC FOOD PARADISE

Eat with aloha on O'ahu, the epicenter of Pacific creative culinary cool. Discover chefs, farmers, ranchers, and food artisans committed to farm to table cuisine, a world-class food festival, and an exciting food truck scene.

East, Drink, Celebrate

The 3rd Annual **Hawai'i Food & Wine Festival** (hawaiifoodandwinefestival.com)

September 1-8, 2013 features over 50 internationally acclaimed chefs, food personalities, and wine and spirits producers celebrating the natural bounty of Hawai'i's farms and seas.

Enjoy galas, dinners, tastings, demonstrations, and excursions.

Down on the Farm

Savor delicious treasures from Hawai'i's farms, seas, and food artisans at weekly farmers' markets: **KCC Farmers' Market** (hfbf.org/markets/markets/kcc/) Sat 7:30-11 am; **Ala Moana Farmers' Market** (haleiwafarmersmarket.com)

Sat. 8-12 noon, Tues. 4-7 pm; and **Hale'iwa Farmers' Market** (haleiwafarmersmarket.com) Thurs. 3-7 pm. **O'ahu Agri-Tours** (oahuagritours.com) offers excursions to working farms.

Mobile Edibles

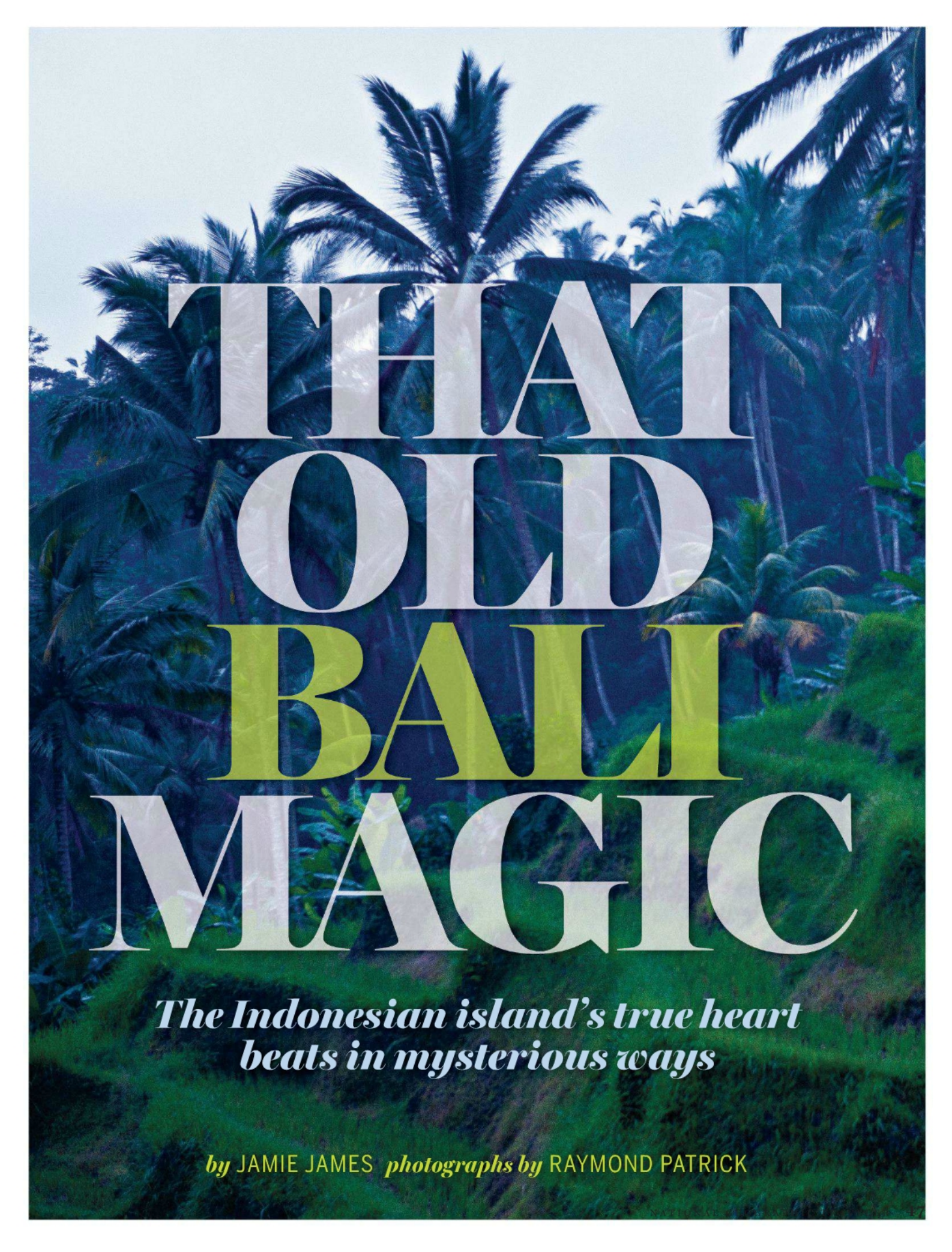
The monthly **Eat the Street Food Truck & Street Food Rally** (streetgrindz.com) in Honolulu's Kaka'ako area is a gathering of mobile cooks inspired by monthly themes. Check the website for pop up rallies and special events.

The Island of
O'ahu
The Heart of Hawai'i

www.gohawaii.com/ono



Tjokorda Raka, a chief of Ubud, stands on the steps outside his home. Opposite: Tegallalang village's rice terraces sculpt a hillside in green.



THAT OLD BALI MAGIC

*The Indonesian island's true heart
beats in mysterious ways*

by JAMIE JAMES *photographs by* RAYMOND PATRICK

T

he joyous, hectic clangor of a gamelan, the traditional percussion ensemble of Indonesia, startles me awake just after dawn. Outside my bedroom window in Seminyak, one of Bali's booming beach resorts, a dozen men wearing batik sarongs and headdresses sit cross-legged in the parking lot of the new nightclub across the street, banging on gongs and xylophones. I jump into my jeans and run downstairs. ¶ The morning din turns out to be a *melaspas*, a ceremony unique to Bali that is held to bless the opening of a new building. The gamelan's brassy notes are intended to drive away any evil influences. Inside, the owner, a Balinese man in his 30s with a lurid crimson-and-cobalt tattoo on his



Rain doesn't dampen the spirits of villagers (above and opposite) gathered in Desa Tebuana for a tree-cutting ceremony. The ritual asks permission from the tree's spirit to chop down the wood, which will be crafted into a sacred temple mask.

right arm and a real Rolex on his left, gives me a neighborly greeting. "I spent \$4,000 on this ceremony," Gede Wira Apsika says, grinning confidently. "I am Balinese. I know that investing in a good *melaspas* will bring my club success."

Towers of star fruit and oranges and frangipani blossoms—offerings to the gods—crowd the dance floor, along with curlicued sculptures made from carved pork rinds. Incense smokes in front of a state-of-the-art sound system.

The *pedanda*, the high priest, arrives in a vintage black Mercedes sedan with tinted windows. Wearing a long white robe and a black velvet crown embroidered in gold, he ascends the canopied platform

erected for him in the parking lot and begins chanting. An acolyte ties a duck and a chicken to a post; their flapping and squawking will end at sundown, when the *pedanda* slits their throats at the climax of the ritual.

Passing tourists pause to gawk as masked dancers enact ancient legends of princes, demons, and dragons, alternating with a pair of beefy drag artists and their bawdy version of a stately dance usually performed by young girls. The visitors may not realize it, but serendipity has brought them a glimpse into the true heart of Bali: the pervasive magic rituals and beliefs of this intensely colorful Balinese Hindu civilization. Some of these visitors will join tours promising





Locals dressed in their colorful best gather at a shrine in Desa Tebuana for the culmination of a tree-cutting ceremony.



In the old plays, gods often masquerade as ferocious beasts, only to reveal their true identity at the end of the story.

to transport them to the “real Bali,” with performances of classical Balinese dance or excursions into the forest by 4WD vehicles. Yet they will never get closer to Bali’s innermost soul than here in the parking lot of a new honky-tonk in Seminyak.

I moved here 14 years ago, following my Indonesian partner, who wanted to open a restaurant. In those days, the area was still largely agricultural, with outposts of budget tourism amid the coconut groves. My bedroom window looked out on rice fields; on a clear day I could see the island’s volcanoes smolder in the distance. But plot by plot, farmland here gave way to high-rise hotels, swanky restaurants, and chic little shops, built by entrepreneurs who proclaimed their intent to create an Ibiza, a South Beach, in rural Indonesia.

Yet this worldly modernity is just a veneer: Under the skin, Bali’s magical belief system is as muscular as ever. After this sacred yet profane dance show with full gamelan appears at my doorstep, I decide it’s time to dive as deeply as I can into the numinous core of this island of some three million people.

I BEGIN BY TRAVELING ABOUT AS FAR FROM Seminyak as I can go in both space and time, to the pristine forest of the West Bali National Park. Apart from a two-lane blacktop that cuts through the park and a low-impact resort on the northern seashore, the land is completely undeveloped. It remains just as it was when the island’s distinctive culture emerged thousands of years ago. Comprising 73 square miles of the island’s western tip, the park doesn’t boast attention-grabbing rhinos or orangutans as other nature preserves in Indonesia do; the Bali tiger was hunted to extinction by the 1940s. Yet herds of docile mouse deer wander the park, and southeast Asian porcupines and marbled cats abound.

On an early morning horseback ride through the mangroves, accompanied by stocky, stone-faced Ketut Sulastra, a park ranger who grew up near here, I see a pair of Bali starlings flutter up from a stand of bamboo. This elegant white mynah, beloved emblem of the island, is one of the most critically endangered species on Earth. In the 1990s there were only about 15 of the birds left, but thanks to captive breeding programs the population now numbers at least 127. When India’s first prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, visited Bali in 1954, he called it the “morning of the world”; traversing what seems like a primordial landscape, I can now feel what he meant.

LIKE MOST INDIGENOUS BELIEFS, Bali’s religion of magic began as animism. At the top of the food chain here is the reticulated python, which has been known to gobble up children. When I ask Ketut if we might see a python, his cool ranger’s face melts away and he exclaims boyishly, “Oh my god! A few weeks ago I saw a big one, over ten feet long, that had just eaten a monitor lizard almost as big as he was.”

The lizard, in death’s throes, writhed in the python’s belly, ripping first one foreleg and then the other through the snake’s skin. “It was a python with legs—a dragon!” Ketut says. The bizarre chimera collapsed: the monitor lizard dead from asphyxiation, the python from blood loss—about as primordial as it gets. The story reminds me of the magical transformations common in traditional Indonesian shadow-puppet theater. In the old plays, gods often masquerade as ferocious beasts, only to reveal their true identity at the end of the story.

The only sign of civilization in the park lies a couple of miles inland, at Makam Jayaprana (Jayaprana’s Mausoleum). Ketut leads the way through a dry stream-bed rustling with the scoot of small lizards, up a steep, densely wooded trail that winds past a small cave with the image of a python carved into the rock around its mouth. Macaques crash overhead, swinging on vines through the canopy. We emerge at the crest of the hill in a small paved plaza flanked by rustic sheds clad in chicken wire, humble shrines that shelter mossy, weathered monoliths. We buy sport drinks and peanuts from a jolly, toothless woman who runs a refreshment stand for visitors and sit down to catch our breath.

Young Balinese buzz around town on scooters (left), whereas in central Bali (opposite) serenity reigns in the village of Pacung, with its view of volcanoes, rain forest, and rice terraces.







According to Ketut, believers built these shrines after two graves were discovered here and identified as relics of the legendary Prince Jayaprana. Jayaprana was the adopted son of a powerful village ruler who conceived a mad lust for Jayaprana's betrothed and ordered his heir to be killed, so he could take her as his own bride. "Jayaprana was murdered in this very place," Ketut says, arching his eyebrows dramatically. When the young prince died, a heavenly fragrance wafted through the forest and all the animals wept—all but one, a white tiger that leaped on the assassin and killed him. When word of Jayaprana's death reached his beloved, she killed herself rather than surrender to the wicked king, and she was buried here with her slain lover.

Ketut concludes with the usual caveat of the Indonesian storyteller: "I don't know if it's true, but that's what people say." Some folks obviously believe: Inside the largest shrine, its low frame entrance shaded by marigold yellow silk parasols, two women straight from the fields, still wearing soiled work sarongs, purchase incense from the shrine's wizened pedanda. The women light the sticks, hold them high in clasped fingertips as they chant a mantra, and plant the smoking incense in a pot of sand in front of Jayaprana's grave.

I ask Ketut to explain. Jayaprana was a mortal man who died centuries ago: Why do people pray at his grave today? The ranger shrugs, as though the answer is obvious, and says, "Bali people pray to him because of his power." The mojo of the martyred prince is undiminished by the passage of a thousand years, its magic power transmitted directly from an era of courtly legend to the age of social networks and sport drinks.

BALINESE MAGIC REMAINED rooted in the land until the mid-14th century, when a kingdom based in Java, the Majapahit, conquered the island and enforced Hindu orthodoxy and the strict caste system that came with it. A few isolated villages refused to accept the new regime and continued living in the old ways. They are called the Bali Aga, meaning "original Balinese." From the jungles of West Bali I drive down a wide, shady highway, deliciously deserted compared with the jammed roads in Seminyak, to the island's cool central highlands. My destination is a Bali Aga village called Trunyan. Continuously inhabited for over a millennium, Trunyan is a living connection to the world of Prince Jayaprana.

The village occupies the eastern shore of a deep, placid crescent lake that curves around the base of Mount Batur, an active volcano with several craters. When I surmount the western ridge and catch my first glimpse of Batur, it looks too perfect to be real, like a prize-winning science fair volcano, with its gentle southern slope gashed by a flow of black basaltic rock from an eruption in 1968. Driving down the switchback that leads to Trunyan, I pass cows dozing beneath soaring banyan trees, old women in straw hats tending gardens of tomatoes and chilies, and bunches of purple shallots hanging from the eaves of barns. When I reach Trunyan, I meet a shy, plump man in his 40s named Nyoman, who abandons a chess game to show me around.

Opposite, clockwise from upper left: Menjangan resort embraces its natural setting in West Bali National Park; cleaned skulls stacked under a banyan tree in the cemetery at Trunyan; a fisherman waits for a nibble in the shallow waters off Menjangan resort; blossoms grace the Jayaprana shrine.

Trunyan is famous throughout Bali for a monolithic idol, likely more than 1,100 years old, of the village's guardian deity, known by several names, including Ratu Gede Pancering Jagat. Outsiders aren't permitted to see the sculpture, but I know someone who did (or claimed to). I intend to try my luck, and ask Nyoman to take me there. We wander through narrow alleys, and busy family compounds where men squat in the shadows repairing fishnets. An elaborately carved basalt gateway admits us to the temple enclosure. A few thatch-roofed pavilions dot the grassy compound, surrounding a tall temple with a seven-tiered roof, the home of Ratu Gede Pancering Jagat.

The temple is padlocked. I blandly ask Nyoman who has the key. His silence is my answer: The Balinese hate to disappoint guests, but I can see in a moment that this is a line not to be crossed. Although I'm disappointed, I realize close contact with the great stone deity might have been even more of a letdown. Magic requires mystery to exert its power. I ask him to describe the statue. He hesitates nervously and finally mumbles, "It is man and woman in one." That's all he will say, except that the statue rises 13 feet tall, almost to the roof of the temple. A huge boulder guards the temple's hobbit-size door. Nyoman says that the rock has a name, but he isn't allowed to



tell me what it is. It turns out that access to the temple is even more restricted than I thought. Nyoman says that no one is permitted to enter the temple except adolescent boys who perform a ritual dance as part of a full-moon festival. The coming-of-age rite for the boys doubles as preventive magic for the village.

At dusk Nyoman rows me in his *perahu* (canoe) to see the local cemetery, a mile along the lakeshore. No rows of stone grave markers here. In Trunyan, rather than being buried or cremated, the dead are exposed to the elements. I spot two corpses laid out under bamboo fencing beneath a fragrant sandalwood tree said to be as old as the village itself. At the tree's base, cleaned bones and skulls form a neat pile—the community bound in death as closely as it was in life. I find my visit to the land of the dead not gruesome at all. In fact, I feel oddly tranquil. As Nyoman skims his canoe back to the village in the crimson-streaked twilight, I envy Trunyan its stack of bones, its cultural integrity, its cosmic security.

THE FINAL DESTINATION ON MY JOURNEY takes me south to Ubud, where my friend Tjokorda Raka Kerthyasa, head of the ancient court of Ubud, has invited me to attend the cremation of an elderly cousin of his. Ubud has been Bali's most famous village since the island was "discovered" in the 1930s by the glamorous first wave of world travelers that included Charlie Chaplin, Noel Coward, Cole

The procession hurtles headlong toward the cremation grounds, nearly trampling tourists who are trying to get good photos.

Porter, Margaret Mead (who shot a documentary film here), and the Mexican artist Miguel Covarrubias, who wrote an illustrated 1937 book called *Island of Bali*, which is still a reliable guide to Balinese culture.

Here, the royal court of Ubud—with its reputation for dazzling pomp and ceremony—has never lost its sway, despite the abolishment of the island's feudal nobility when Indonesia proclaimed itself a republic in 1945. If Trunyan is Balinese magic at its most primeval, Ubud is the religion's high baroque, its most elaborate expression. No ritual here is more spectacular than the funeral rites of the royal family; when a multiple royal cremation was performed five years ago, it made front-page news worldwide.

A father and child attend a religious ceremony in Ubud (below). Balinese dancers perform during a temple blessing held once every 30 years in the village of Payogan (opposite).



The mood at the temple grounds is festive, as spirited as a New Orleans jazz funeral. Why not? The deceased lived a long life, blessed with a great progeny. I sit with Tjok Raka, eating fried noodles from a buffet. In addition to his aristocratic status in Ubud, Tjok Raka is also a member of Indonesia's national parliament; no one knows more about the challenges the island faces now. Yet he remains serene. "Bali survives," he says. "We're performing our rituals, praying and meditating, trying to find wisdom, the balance between the real world and the intangible. Anyone can experience that balance, Westerners the same as Balinese." He looks me in the eye and adds, "Now you are on the earth of Bali. Even if you leave, Bali will be under your skin."

Tjok Raka hurries off to supervise the impending ceremony. I ask his son, sitting on my other side, what to expect. Tjok Gde, an accredited homeopathic practitioner, says that today's event will be modest by comparison with other recent royal cremations—a development he very much approves of. "Every culture reaches a tipping point as it approaches decadence," he says, "and Bali has reached that point. Prosperity from tourism has accelerated the trend toward bigger and more lavish spectacles, pushing rituals beyond what they were originally intended to be."

Hundreds of people have gathered in the street around two large constructions. First is an eight-foot-tall black bull made of wood, with gilded horns and harness twinkling with fake gems, which will hold the coffin when it is burned; next is a nine-tiered tower, twice as tall as the bull, painted in scarlet and forest green, flapping with pennants inscribed with magic charms written in classical Balinese script. The white coffin is loaded into the base of the tower, a marching gamelan begins its bright clatter, and the procession lurches to life. The bull, with Tjok Gde sitting astride it, goes first, followed by the tower, carried by perhaps a hundred men. Tjok Raka stands at the base of the tower, wearing the red sash of mourning and banging a brass gong on his hip to encourage the carriers. The procession hurtles at a headlong pace toward the cremation grounds, nearly trampling tourists who are trying to get good photos.

Living in Bali, you become accustomed to the islanders' clear-eyed, unsentimental acceptance of death. In Trunyan they do it by keeping thousand-year-old secrets, in Ubud they put on a fabulous public show; both are expressions of the indestructible core of magic that keeps the island whole.

As I drive back to Seminyak, descending once more into the coastal heat and heavy traffic, I feel hopeful. My friends in Bali worry about the impact of the tourist boom on the island's social fabric and environmental resources, but I've seen now how the mystical thread that connects the modern island with its legendary past, delicate yet resilient as the filament of a spider's web, is spinning into the future.

As for me, I have Bali under my skin.

JAMIE JAMES is author of several books, among them *The Snake Charmer*, and is at work on another about expatriate artists and writers. Photographer **RAYMOND PATRICK** shot "New Yorkers' New York" (April 2011).



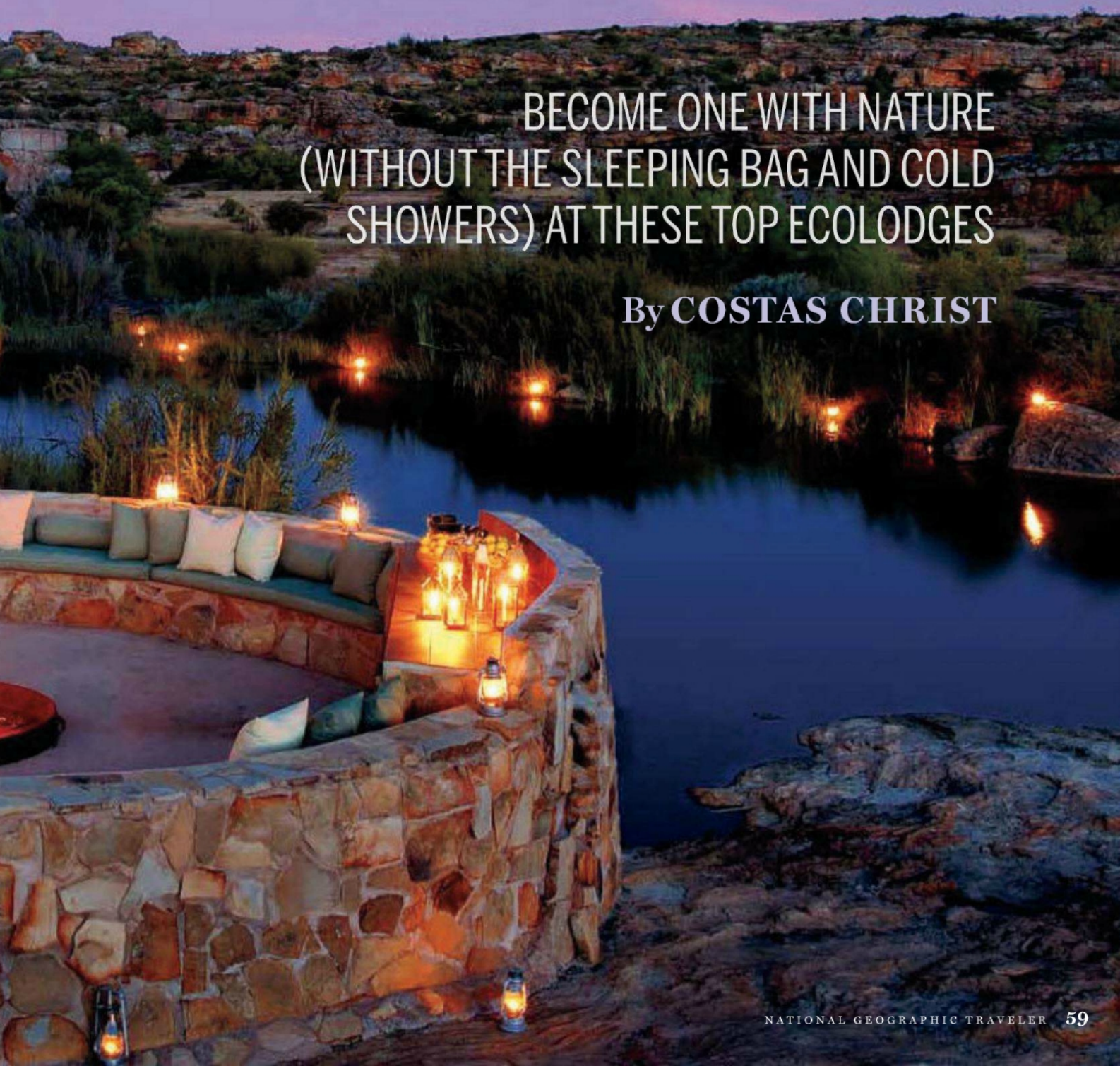
25 *wild*

At Bushmans Kloof, in South Africa, a boma along the Boontjies River is a popular spot for predinner cocktails.

Nights

BECOME ONE WITH NATURE
(WITHOUT THE SLEEPING BAG AND COLD
SHOWERS) AT THESE TOP ECOLODGES

By **COSTAS CHRIST**



From a few early outposts sporting canvas walls and raised wooden walkways, ecolodges now span the globe and all manner of styles. Remote off-the-grid mountain bungalows offer the adventurer a true back-to-the-land encounter, while oceanfront villas of recycled wood make use of organic cotton sheets and the latest green technologies for the sybarite. One day there may be no need to put “eco” in front of “lodges”—helping to protect threatened habitats, support cultural heritage, and improve local livelihoods will be expected of any travelers’ rest, along with a room with a view and a comfortable bed. Until then, these 25 retreats set themselves apart by delivering authenticity and sustainability in nature’s most spectacular settings.



1 Cree Village Eco Lodge, Canada 2 Hacienda Santa Rosa, Mexico
3 Laguna Lodge, Guatemala 4 Pacuare Lodge, Costa Rica 5 Turtle Inn, Belize
6 Jicaro Island Ecolodge, Nicaragua 7 Inkatererra Reserva Amazónica, Peru
8 Cristalino Jungle Lodge, Brazil 9 Eco-Frontiers Ranch, Poland 10 Milia Mountain Retreat, Greece
11 Feynan Ecolodge, Jordan 12 Damaraland Camp, Namibia 13 DumaTau, Botswana
14 Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve and Wellness Retreat, South Africa 15 Bulungula Lodge, South Africa
16 Chumbe Island Coral Park, Zanzibar 17 Eagle View Camp, Kenya
18 Orange County, Kibini, India 19 Jetwing Vil Uyana, Sri Lanka 20 Great Ocean Ecolodge, Australia
21 Resurgence, New Zealand 22 Six Senses Con Dao, Vietnam 23 Misool Eco Resort, Indonesia 24 Yangshuo Mountain Retreat, China 25 Three Camel Lodge, Mongolia



GUATEMALA Laguna Lodge

Tucked along the shore of Lake Atitlán, with its misty volcanoes and Maya villages, Laguna’s six suites artfully blend adobe bricks, river stone, and brightly embroidered huipils and hand-loomed blankets. The dining tilts organic, fresh, and meat free, and the aromatic coffee comes from

the lodge’s own gardens and is roasted on-site. A hundred-acre nature reserve established by the lodge reaches from the shore up 1,305 feet. Old Maya trails wind through some of the last remaining primary tropical dry forest around the lake, home to belted flycatchers and other endemic birds. Adrenaline buffs can jump from high rock faces into the deep water. 6 rooms; from

INTERNATIONAL MAPPING: BUSHMANS KLOOF WILDERNESS RESERVE & WELLNESS RETREAT (PRECEDING PAGE)



\$240, including breakfast and boat transportation to and from Panajachel. www.laguna lodgeatitlan.com

MONGOLIA

Three Camel Lodge

At the edge of a volcanic outcrop providing bright morning vistas across Gobi Gurvansaikhan National

Park, Three Camel's 50 *gers* (yurts) appear more like a herders' village than a lodge. "Our approach has always been to embrace the culture," says owner Jalsa Urubshurow. "Local artisans crafted the roof of the main building without using a single nail, according to the tenets of Mongolian Buddhist architecture." The lodge funds a range of conservation efforts, including

replanting more than 6,000 native trees and shrubs to help prevent desertification. Hiking, exploring paleontology sites, and bird-watching fill the days; later the chef's open kitchen offers cozy meals such as steamed meat dumplings while the sun gives way to night skies brimming with stars. 50 rooms; from \$350, including full board. www.threecamel lodge.com

Activities at Guatemala's Laguna Lodge range from kayaking Lake Atitlán to hiking San Pedro Volcano.

SRI LANKA

Jetwing Vil Uyana

Built on man-made wetlands, this luxury hotel weaves culture and nature together into one seamless experience for travelers pining for both. Twenty-five earth-toned dwellings await in forest and marsh habitats, where more than a hundred wildlife species are found, including such rarities as the gray slender loris. "Ten years ago, this same area was a barren patch of slash-and-burn agriculture," explains chairman of Jetwing Hotels Hiran Cooray. "We worked hard to nurture it back to nature." Guests set out on foot to explore the ancient city of Sigiriya, a UNESCO World Heritage site just minutes away that rises 1,214 feet high. *27 rooms; from \$150, including breakfast. www.jetwinghotels.com/jetwingviluyana*

KENYA

Eagle View Camp

On the observation deck of this oasis, you can sip sundowners while getting an eagle's-eye view of watchful predators and wary prey eager to quench their thirst at the Koiyake

River water hole below. The nine sustainably sourced wood and canvas tents are carefully positioned along an escarpment above a secluded valley teeming with wildlife. Nature walks are led by Maasai guides on the remote 50,000-acre Mara Naboisho Conservancy, made up of communal tribal land. At night, embark on forays to spot nocturnal creatures like the aardvark and bush baby; during the day, set out to find the Big Five (lion, elephant, rhino, leopard, buffalo) in the adjacent Masai Mara National Reserve. *9 tented suites; from \$380, including full board, tours, and game drives. www.basecampkenya.com*

NAMIBIA

Damaraland Camp

In a country of successful conservation programs that have helped increase elephant numbers and expand the range of endangered black rhinos, Damaraland Camp has been a pioneer. "We formed the first joint venture in Namibia between a safari company and local villagers," says former goat herder turned camp concession manager, Pescolena

Florry. The Torra Conservancy established by her community has become a model for reducing poverty and protecting wildlife in Africa. From sunrise breakfasts on a mountaintop to stargazing dinners in the desert, the camp staff delights in creating special experiences, and top guides share their intimate knowledge of Namibia's unique desert habitats. *10 rooms; from \$475, including full board and daily game-viewing activities. www.wilderness-safaris.com*

MEXICO

Hacienda Santa Rosa

This meticulously restored family-owned plantation house is located 44 miles south of the colonial city of Mérida on the Yucatán Peninsula. Santa Rosa combines environmental stewardship with community projects such as directly supporting small-business development for local Maya women. Guests can spend time with village artisans; savor Maya recipes like chicken *pibil*, handed down through generations; swim in hidden cenotes; and sniff around an on-site botanic garden. In a nod to the hacienda's former life as

In Mexico's Yucatán Peninsula, Hacienda Santa Rosa serves candlelit meals on its colonnaded terrace.



Spotting a herd of elephants is part of the day's adventures at Eagle View Camp in Kenya.

a center for the production of sisal, hand-woven hammocks encourage a long afternoon siesta. *11 rooms; from \$240. www.haciendasantarosa.com*

BELIZE

Turtle Inn

"When I was making *Apocalypse Now*, I became infatuated with the jungle," says Francis Ford Coppola about what first led him to Belize. On the beach here he built an eco-complex of 25 thatched cottages where the famous filmmaker comes to chill out. Steady ocean breezes replace artificial air conditioning, stainless steel water bottles take priority over plastic, and an expansive organic garden and fresh seafood delivered by local fishermen



supply the menu, along with a stash of choice wines from Coppola's own vineyards. The inn partners with SEA Belize and Rainforest Alliance for marine conservation. Popular outings include jaunts to nearby Placencia village or the Western Hemisphere's largest barrier reef just offshore. *25 cottages; from \$299, including continental breakfast.* www.coppolareorts.com/turtleinn

GREECE

Milia Mountain Retreat

In the 1980s, when many Greeks left their villages to ride the wave of tourism development along the coast, two local friends took to the mountains of Crete instead. Their vision: restore an abandoned medieval village and turn it into a retreat

based on living in harmony with nature. "The ancient Greeks called this *autarkeia*, which means self-sustaining," says manager Tassos Gourgouras. Today, travelers the world over flock to this off-the-grid stone village to hike on wild mountain trails, sleep in rustic cottages, and savor authentic Cretan dishes like roasted rabbit with *mizithra* goat cheese and spearmint, washed down with Milia's own organic wine. *15 rooms; from \$100, including breakfast.* www.milia.gr/EN

ZANZIBAR

Chumbe Island Coral Park

It's hard to get more environmentally friendly than

Chumbe's seven eco-bungalows on a sun-splashed coral island in the Zanzibar archipelago. Rainwater is collected for daily needs, the sun provides energy, and composting toilets keep the surrounding marine park pollution free. The entire enterprise doubles as a nature reserve that also offers educational programs for local children. Forested trails deliver up close encounters with the endangered Aders' duiker and rare coconut crabs (the world's largest land crabs) that seek refuge here. Guests can also explore Zanzibar's historic towns, don masks and fins to snorkel the healthy private reef, then retire at night to dine by lantern on traditional Swahili cuisine. *7 rooms; from \$260, including full board and round-trip boat transfers.* www.chumbeisland.com

POLAND

Eco-Frontiers Ranch

This is the place for anyone who has pondered going back to the land and living a sustainable lifestyle or has wanted to get a taste of that experience as a traveler. Located in the Carpathian Mountains on a wedge of Poland between the borders of Slovakia and Ukraine, the cabin-like rooms sleep up to seven guests and are surrounded by some of Europe's most spectacular wilderness, where wolves, bears, and lynx still roam. During summer, head into Bieszczady National Park on guided nature walks, and in winter, swap hiking boots for snowshoes and cross-country skis. Vegetarian Polish meals are the daily fare. At night, settle in at the Renewable Resources



*Hanging walkways
let guests experience a
treetop-level view of the
Peruvian rain forest
at Inkaterra Reserva
Amazónica.*

Bar to sample award-winning microbrews. 2 rooms; from \$63, including breakfast. www.ecofrontiers.net

PERU

Inkaterra Reserva Amazónica

This remote rain forest lodge has supported over 20 years of ongoing scientific research. “Peru contains more than two-thirds of Earth’s diverse ecological life zones, and we have a responsibility to help protect this biodiversity,” explains José Koechlin, the Peruvian who founded and is president of Inkaterra. Choose between sleeping in one of 35 airy wood-and-thatch cabanas or a secluded canopy tree house. The Anaconda trail allows visitors to cross the flooded Aguajales swamp on a wooden boardwalk, revealing a host of tropical amphibians (Inkaterra has helped identify five new species to date). Traversing the canopy on a hanging walkway delivers treetop access to colorful birds and some of the more than 1,266 species of flora found here. 35 cabanas; from \$1,084 for required two-night minimum stay, including full board and daily excursions. www.inkaterra.com/en/reserva-amazonica

VIETNAM

Six Senses Con Dao

No shirt, no shoes, no problem could be the daily mantra at this Six Senses haven constructed from reclaimed teak, including over a thousand recycled antique wooden panels. The resort dangles on a slice of world-class beach in Con Dao National Park—a 45-minute flight from frenetic Ho Chi Minh City. Sustainability takes center stage, with initiatives including local and organic meals, no plastic water bottles, and nontoxic biodegradable cleaning products and amenities. Windsurfing, body boarding, and sailing start right outside the door. But for many guests, the activity of



A bedroom villa at Six Senses Con Dao, in Vietnam, opens onto two miles of private beach.

choice is simply immersion in the unspoiled nature that surrounds the private villas. 50 rooms; from \$580, including breakfast. www.sixsenses.com/sixsensescondao

COSTA RICA

Pacuare Lodge

Visitors come for the adventure and stay for the romance at Pacuare, located on 25,000 protected acres of high-biodiversity rain forest in the Talamanca Mountains—home to jaguars, ocelots, monkeys, and sloths. Arrival is by white-water raft on the lodge’s namesake river (for those who don’t want to get wet, the overland alternative includes a combo of 4x4 vehicle, hand-pulled-cable river crossing, and a short hike). Once you are there, a different kind of experience unfolds—think Swiss Family Robinson meets jungle luxury. Candlelight dinners accompanied by fine wines are the hallmark of the owners, who are Costa Rican foodies. Afterward, sink into one of the big canopy beds, serenaded by nature’s lullaby. 19 rooms; from \$377, including full board

and rafting and/or ground transportation to and from the lodge. www.pacuarelodge.com

BOTSWANA

DumaTau

Osprey Lagoon, near the source of Botswana’s mysteriously intermittent Savuti Channel (after a nearly 30-year hiatus, it began flowing again in 2008), forms part of the wildlife-rich Linyanti ecosystem. It is also the veranda view for DumaTau’s completely refurbished eco-camp. “In keeping with our conservation-through-tourism ethos, DumaTau operates on solar energy, while biogas from our organic kitchen waste helps supply the cooking fuel,” explains Brett Wallington, sustainability coordinator at Wilderness Safaris. This is elephant country, and herds thrive in the marshy habitat, providing plenty of intimate photo ops, in open-sided Land Rovers, on foot, and by boat when the water’s flowing. 10 tents; from \$868, including full board and daily game-viewing activities. www.wilderness-safaris.com

Ec lodge of the Future

What will the next generation of ecolodges look like? We asked Kenyan-born ecolodge expert Hitesh Mehta: “Up-cycling abandoned shipping containers will become one of the most environmentally friendly approaches for the ecolodge of the future. The exterior will be covered in plant panels that form living walls. The green roof will have solar photovoltaics [such as at Poland’s Eco-Frontiers Ranch, below] and composted soil with native flora. Inside, recycled wood panels with soy-based paints will have porthole windows that usher in the daylight to illuminate a decor of cultural artifacts.”



Misool Eco Resort's overwater bungalows are a step and a splash away from world-class diving in Indonesia.



INDONESIA

Misool Eco Resort

This eco-hideaway, consisting of 13 breezy bungalows handcrafted out of salvaged driftwood, turns the old cliché that the journey matters more than the destination on its head: It's not easy to reach this remote outpost in Indonesia's Raja Ampat archipelago, but being there makes it all worthwhile. Located at the center of Southeast Asia's famed Coral Triangle, Misool provides front-row access to an underwater world teeming with marine life—there are more kinds of fish and coral here than bird species in the Amazon. Local village visits and paddling across the baby blue waters are also options, but for diving and snorkeling aficionados, this is a trip of a lifetime. *13 rooms; from \$5,466 for 7 nights (minimum*

stay), including full board. www.misoolcoresort.com

NEW ZEALAND

Resurgence

A winding country road follows the brilliant blue edge of Tasman Bay to this luxe hideout on 50 acres near the clear bubbling source ("the resurgence") of the Riwaka River. Native birds, including the melodious tui, flutter across meandering pathways to large and sunny chalets. Among other sustainability highlights, the husband and wife who own the Resurgence plant an indigenous tree for every couple who visits. The location could hardly be better: Hip artist enclaves and the Nelson region's renowned wine estates can be found nearby, and total wilderness immersion awaits on guided treks in Kahurangi

National Park, an easy day-trip away. *10 rooms; from \$437, including breakfast.* www.resurgence.co.nz

JORDAN

Feynan Ecolodge

The Dana Biosphere Reserve—a gold and crimson desert carved by ancient wadis—is the backdrop for Feynan Ecolodge, owned by Jordan's Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature. Glowing candles handmade by local women illuminate rooms and interior courtyards decorated with traditional handicrafts. The midday heat of summer encourages early morning and late afternoon activities such as mountain biking and trekking; during the winter months, fireplaces fed with charcoal made of crushed olive pits, a renewable

and readily available resource, keep things warm and cozy. Bedouin hosts lead activities like making flatbread over an open fire and exploring 4,000-year-old copper mines that existed in the time of the Roman Empire. *26 rooms; from \$110, including breakfast and Dana Reserve entrance fee.* www.feynan.com

AUSTRALIA

Great Ocean Ecolodge

Located on the grounds of the Conservation Ecology Centre in Victoria, the Great Ocean Ecolodge also borders Great Otway National Park, which protects swaths of eucalyptus forests, thundering waterfalls, and windswept heathlands that end at dramatic cliffs above the churning ocean. Its five elegant rooms overlook grassy fields where wild kangaroos

come to feed and play. “This is one of the best ecotourism experiences in the country and is the embodiment of tourism igniting a conservation ethic among guests,” says Tony Charters, former president of Ecotourism Australia. Look for koalas feeding and dozing in the treetops, help care for injured and orphaned wild-life, or set out on the 64-mile Great Ocean Walk, with fresh supplies provided daily by the lodge staff. *5 rooms; from \$360, including continental breakfast.* www.greatoceanecolodge.com

SOUTH AFRICA

Bulungula Lodge

A bumpy ride down a long dirt track ends at Bulungula on South Africa’s “Wild Coast,” where ten whitewashed rondavels (traditional rounded thatched huts), co-owned and managed by Xhosa villagers, use the sun, wind, and rain to provide daily energy needs. Shoestring travelers are welcomed like family to this rustic lodge that also provides economic opportunities for the

rural community. Breakfast? Down a fresh fruit smoothie, then join villagers in activities like brickmaking, beer brewing, and maize stamping. Or set out for a walk across miles of empty beach, listening to the sound track of rolling waves. *10 huts; from \$39.* www.bulungula.com

SOUTH AFRICA

Bushmans Kloof Wilderness Reserve

Each September, the UNESCO-protected Cape Floral Region bursts into living color with some of the greatest concentrations of floral species in the world. Bushmans Kloof, a century-old homestead turned nature reserve, cares for 18,532 acres of this rare habitat—home to endangered Cape mountain zebras and archaeological sites that include 10,000-year-old San rock paintings. “We are dedicated to Bushmans Kloof’s enduring legacy, to help protect and preserve its precious heritage through ecotourism, conservation programs, and

community benefit projects,” says South African-born Toni Tollman, who oversees the reserve on behalf of her family. Sixteen lavish rooms and a private family villa serve as the base camp for daily outings or unwinding with a glass of the Cape’s finest vintages. *16 rooms; from \$420, including full board.* www.bushmanskloof.co.za

INDIA

Orange County, Kabini

Watching the sky radiate its sunset palette from the riverside tables of Kabini’s open-air restaurant brings a tranquil end to active days. Visitors explore Nagarhole National Park in search of the elusive Bengal tiger and India’s largest herds of Asian elephants, along with other flagship species (leopard and wild dog). Simple-looking mud-and-thatch huts built in the traditional style of the indigenous Kuruba tribes belie more opulent interiors while also minimizing the environmental footprint (a reverse osmosis system in each

building eliminates the need for imported drinking water). The lodge supports the Kuruba heritage with interactive storytelling sessions, dance performances, and river outings in a handmade coracle. *37 cottages; from \$478, including full board.* www.orangecounty.in/kabini-resorts

BRAZIL

Cristalino Jungle Lodge

A 28,167-acre rain forest reserve in southern Mato Grosso envelops Cristalino’s wood-and-tile bungalows, designed to take advantage of cooling breezes and natural light. The languid Cristalino River provides plenty of opportunities for canoeing, swimming, and wildlife viewing—from the rare giant otters playfully at home in the water to the endemic red-nosed bearded saki monkeys traversing the treetops. Climb one of the two 164-foot observation towers to get a look at some of the more than 550 birds that have been identified



From South Africa’s Bushmans Kloof, visitors set out to explore 10,000-year-old rock paintings.



*The Yulong River snakes
past limestone peaks
near Yangshuo Mountain
Retreat in China.*

in this species-rich corner of the Amazon and be rewarded with a stunning above-the-canopy view of the world's largest jungle. *16 rooms; from \$630, including full board and exploration trips. www.cristalinolodge.com.br*

CHINA

Yangshuo Mountain Retreat

Simple, authentic, and sustainable are the leading qualities behind this locally owned ecolodge surrounded by limestone karst peaks, located about an hour's drive, and a world away, from the bustling tourist city of Guilin. You won't find TV or telephones here, but you will spot water buffalo bathing amid emerald paddies as farmers till their fields by hand. Though the fairytale landscape has inspired Chinese poets and artists for centuries, it is also popular with today's backpackers, who are eager to tap into outdoor pursuits such as rock climbing, mountain biking, and river-rafting on bamboo rafts, along with visiting traditional villages. The lodge supports local initiatives such as a school for children with physical disabilities. *30 rooms; from \$60. www.yangshuomountainretreat.com*

NICARAGUA

Jicaro Island Ecolodge

Jicaro sits serenely on a tiny islet in the freshwater "ocean" of Lake Nicaragua, a short boat ride from Granada, the oldest colonial city in Central America. Constructed from salvaged hardwoods felled by a hurricane in 2007, the nine casitas cater to romantic escapes (sorry, no kids under 12). Couples relish the privacy of large breezy bedrooms,



Bird-watchers at Brazil's Cristalino Jungle Lodge train their sights on an avian-rich setting.

intimate dinners, and easy access to Granada's cafés and cobblestoned streets. "Sustainability has been built into Jicaro from the ground up," says Hans Pfister, one of the founders of the Cayuga Sustainable Hospitality collection of small eco-hotels that includes Jicaro. More active guests set out on hikes along the flanks of Mombacho Volcano and kayak among the other 300 islets. *9 casitas; from \$390, including full board and round-trip boat transportation from Granada. www.jicarolodge.com*

CANADA

Cree Village Eco Lodge

Overlooking the subarctic waterways of the tidal Moose River in northern Ontario, the 20-room lodge is designed in the style of a Cree village *shabatwon*—a traditional long tepee with doors at each end. The soaring structure of pine, cedar, and hickory lets in the nearly 20 hours of summer light; stone fireplaces and warm guest rooms padded with thick carpets and blankets of natural wool keep winter's chill at bay. Guests can hike

in Tidewater Provincial Park, take a boat to James Bay for seal- and whale-spotting led by local guides, or view the northern lights at night. The lodge restaurant serves fair-trade coffee as well as health-minded aboriginal cuisine, including free-range bison from Ontario and caribou from Nunavut. *20 rooms; from \$168. www.creevillage.com*

Editor at Large COSTAS CHRIST is featured in the new book I Am Eco Warrior: Portraits From the Front Lines of the Sustainability Revolution.

OUR APPROACH To create this list of ecolodges, the author drew on his own visits and also tapped into a network of international ecotourism experts who recommended their top picks. Environmentally friendly practices, support for the protection of cultural and natural heritage, and social and economic benefits to local people were all taken into account. These values are also part of *Traveler's* mission of inspiring people to explore and care about the planet, which includes staying at places that are authentic, engaging, and sustainable. Other factors in the selection process included geographic location, price range, and high marks on guest services and activities.

**SUBMIT BY
JUNE 30, 2013**

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC

TRAVELER

ENTER THE
NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
TRAVELER

Annual Photo Contest

www.nationalgeographic.com/travelerphotocontest

1st PRIZE

10-day National Geographic Expedition to the Galápagos for two
aboard the *National Geographic Endeavour*

www.ngexpeditions.com/trips

2nd PRIZE

7-day National Geographic Photography Workshop for one in Santa Fe

www.ngexpeditions.com/trips

3rd PRIZE

6-day cruise for two on a Maine windjammer schooner

www.schooneramerican eagle.com & www.schoonerheritage.com

7 MERIT PRIZES

Print of merit photo, matted and framed by the National Geographic Imaging Lab

\$200 gift certificate to B&H Photo

SUBMIT ENTRIES APRIL 1 - JUNE 30, 2013

\$15 per entry. Enter online at www.nationalgeographic.com/travelerphotocontest



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
EXPEDITIONS



*If you can't relax out here,
you're just not trying.*



A long walk on soft, warm sand usually does the trick. And Suffolk County has two of America's Top 10 Beaches. If touring a romantic winery is more to your liking, *Wine Enthusiast* magazine named us one of the world's Ten Best Wine Travel Destinations. And don't forget our championship golf courses and fishing grounds. Or our elegant Hamptons villages, historic mansions, museums, lighthouses and windmills. The list goes on and on. Just like our beaches.

I ♥ NY



For a free Travel Guide, call 1-877-386-6654, ext. 280 or visit DiscoverLongIsland.com/tg280.

MONTAUK ON

Nostalgia inspires a road trip along the vineyards and beach towns of eastern Long Island by Janelle Nanos

*New York's Montauk
Point Lighthouse.*

IN MY MIND



ON A MAP,

the east end of Long Island, New York, looks like the gaping jaws of a crocodile. I'm at the back of the animal's throat, driving northeast on County Road 105, when I see the mouth opening wide in front of me. Here the reptile's smile spreads around the Great Peconic Bay. ¶ "Head north, head north," I tell my husband, Tim, and the suburban sprawl so synonymous with central Long Island gives way to farmland. Hand-painted

roadside signs advertise fresh eggs, raw milk, lavender bouquets. I roll down the windows, slide back the sunroof, and crank up the radio. My hand surfs up and down on the wind. I breathe deeply, inhaling salty air and a bit of dust kicked up from the road. "I love it out here," I say, as Tim laughs. "I know," he says. "You're geeking out like a little kid."

I was a kid when I first came here, out where the highways narrow to two-lane roads, where the houses grew larger, then small again, all the way out to "the End," as the locals call it. Montauk. My extended family gathered to camp each summer at Hither Hills, an oceanfront state park outside Montauk. I learned how to ride a bike, fell in love with stargazing, and, most nights, collapsed into my sleeping bag after hours of wave jumping in the Atlantic. Then, when I was 11, my mom and dad split up. Family vacations became casualties of an ongoing war. Neither parent ever took my brother or

evolution over the past four decades from potato to wine country.

"Good wine needs cheese," says Tim, flashing a cheesy smile, and we turn right on Love Lane into the tiny thumbprint of a town called Mattituck. Inside the sunny Village Cheese Shop, a cherub-faced cheesemonger approaches us. "Anything in particular in mind?" asks the teen, and upon hearing our plans to visit some nearby vineyards, he reaches into the fridge—piled with some 300 varieties—and fishes out a Reading raclette from Vermont. While carving off a sliver, he explains how it'll keep in the warm weather. The cheese is pungent and smooth; Tim nods his approval.

Another few minutes on the road brings us to Shinn Estate Vineyards. Thwack-thwack, thwack-thwack. I hop out of the car to discover a windmill spinning frantically—and loudly—overhead. We slip into the recesses of the rustic tasting room, in a 125-year-old barn. A border collie immediately plops his head in Tim's lap. Owner

and winemaker Barbara Shinn comes over to check on her sidekick, Panda, and offers us a pour of the estate merlot while explaining that the windmill and solar panels help power the vineyard, and organic, biodynamic methods use the natural yeast that develops on the skin of the grapes. "It looks like lavender baby powder," she says. Shinn's husband and co-owner, David Page, weaves us around massive silver tanks. He tells us how the couple had opened one of Manhattan's first farm-to-table restaurants in 1993 in Greenwich Village. Now they infuse their vineyard with the same locavore sensibility. "Foraging at its finest," I tell Tim as we pick up a few bottles on our way out.

The sun begins to dip as we head farther east along Route 25, past plots of spinach and sunflowers, clusters of low-slung motels, and marinas and marshes. A bridge lifts us over train tracks; the sun

glows over the pine barrens like the wick of a snuffed-out candle. From there it's a short way to our stop for the night, Greenport, a 17th-century English settlement turned 19th-century whaling and shipbuilding hub. Now it's a seaside tourist magnet, with B&Bs and upmarket dining such as Peconic Bay scallops at the Frisky Oyster.

On our way to dinner, I wander into one of Greenport's many boutiques, the White Weathered Barn. I tap Tim's shoulder to show him a rather clever souvenir, a flattened-out fork with "North" pressed into the metal. As we walk past Greenport's centerpiece—an antique 1920s carousel encased in a sparkling glass structure overlooking the harbor—shrieks of laughter break out. Children clamor on the edges of their horses, eager for their prize: a brass ring that guarantees another ride.



me back. When I met Tim, I confided that Montauk was "my happy place." After a dozen years together, he and I have finally booked a campsite at Hither Hills. But before we ferry to Montauk, we need provisions from the island's agrarian North Fork.

FINALLY I SPOT the large green and white house of Briermere Farms at the end of the road. "That's it, stop there," I tell Tim, pointing. "And get the cooler ready." We fill our basket with plump berries, corn, tomatoes, and—the crown of our haul—one of the farm's famous pies, a strawberry/rhubarb still warm from the oven.

As we drive east, rows of grapevines stretch out, their arms entwined like lines of family members gleefully dancing the "Hava Nagila"—almost as if the land itself is celebrating the North Fork's



Treasure island: Along Long Island's rural North Fork, farm stores (right) offer fresh bounty like strawberries (above); the South Fork lures all kinds of beachcombers (below).



MICHAEL MOHR/REDOUX (STRAWBERRIES, BUILDING), EMILY ANNE EPSTEIN/CORBIS (DOGS)



Wooden houses line Main Street in Sag Harbor, a historic whaling port.

THE NEXT MORNING, we pull up behind a milk truck onto the small North ferry. Before reaching the South Fork, we must pass through Shelter Island, an 8,000-acre spot of land (a morsel in the croc's mouth). I pop open the car doors to watch sailboats slide through Gardiners Bay; a few leather-clad motorcyclists unstrap their helmets and stretch their faces up like cats toward the light. The eight-minute drive across the island winds us past the Victorian cottages of Shelter Island Heights and along the Mashomack Preserve. I'd love to explore its 20 miles of hiking trails, but I've got Montauk on my mind.

"The North and South Forks have different personalities," I begin to tell Tim as we disembark the South ferry. On the weekend, the roads out here clog with traffic from the East Coast elite who make the Hamptons their summer playground. Just then, a cherry red Alfa Romeo Spider convertible pulls up as evidence.

In Sag Harbor, we stop to stretch our legs and wander past the main drag's old hardware shops and an art deco theater. At a housewares boutique called MONC XIII, I spy a Coleman cooler identical to the one in our trunk, only this one is encased in supple leather. It costs \$835. As we race back to our car, suppressing laughs, Tim wonders how one manages to put anything in a leather-clad icebox without destroying its finish. "It's a cooler—it gets dirty!" he mutters.

Continuing south on Route 114, I point out how the hedges grow taller and the homes get farther apart. "This is East Hampton," I explain, rolling my eyes, and we take a quick detour down Dunemere Lane to ogle the thatched-roof Maidstone Club, a storied country club for the billionaire set.

It's been more than 20 years since I visited Montauk, and as we

drive through the town of Amagansett, my stomach twists into knots. I'm nervous the creep of the Hamptons has overtaken my Montauk. Over the past few years, I've seen its beaches become backdrops in hip magazine spreads.

Still, the drive remains the same. The scrub pines get shorter, and the road narrows at the Napeague isthmus, or "water land" as the Algonquins called it, past a series of lobster and clam shacks. As we skim over hills toward town, my stomach jumps, my nerves giving way to excitement. As if on cue, the chorus of Ellie Goulding's "Lights" comes on the radio: "Calling, calling, calling me home."

We pull into Montauk's circular town plaza, where I'm happy to see the old Memory Motel, immortalized by the Rolling Stones, holding on, albeit near a Cynthia Rowley designer boutique and an outpost of Manhattan's fashionable Momofuku Milk Bar. "Save Montauk" signs—with a red slash through a trendy fedora—have been posted around town. I worry I'm already too late. I'd hate to be perceived as another hanger-on.

Suntanned 20-somethings swarm the elevated deck at the Sloppy Tuna beach bar, but I'm relieved to see tradition enduring at the Shagwong Restaurant, with dapper waiters in ties and tan blazers. At hotels like the Surf Lodge, Sole East, and Ruschmeyer's, a see-and-be-seen crowd angles for space among boho-chic teepees and picnic tables.

"It's hard to get a fisherman's rate these days," admits Ken Wallis, owner of the Oceanside Beach Resort, when we run into him in town. He has painted over his hotel's famous highlighter yellow facade, save for a set of three smiley faces on its east-facing wall. "The town is changing, but you change with it," he says.

Back in the car, we continue east to the brown-and-white-striped Montauk Point Lighthouse. "We've made it," I say. "The End." Tim and I skip stones and dip our toes in the Atlantic. My arms wrapped around his waist, we linger to let the new memory set in.

Our campsite at Hither Hills is calling, but first I instinctively throw a left off Montauk Highway. Every summer my grandparents, now gone, checked into the East Deck Motel, its blue neon sign overlooking the cliff-sided Ditch Plains beach. The sand is nearly purple, having been dredged up in a recent storm. A handful of surfers bob on their boards, waiting for the perfect wave.

The sky has begun to blush as we make our way to set up camp. Then I see it—the brown wooden sign with carved white lettering: Hither Hills. The flagpole clangs in greeting. Children scurry from the bathhouse wrapped in towels, their lips waterlogged and blue. Seagulls look up expectantly while we unpack our tents and cooler—no leather, but it'll suffice—stuffed with North Fork goodies.

Kids are pedaling circles on their bikes, and the smell of charcoal mingles with the sea air. It's just as I remembered—only better, because I'm back.

JANELLE NANOS, a former editor at *Traveler*, grew up in central Long Island and is currently an editor at *Boston Magazine*.

TAKING THE LONG WAY

Cutchogue Village Green

Christened the "principal place" by the Algonquin Indians who once inhabited Long Island, Cutchogue is one of the U.S.'s prime sites for seeing original English architecture (with free tours on weekends).

North Fork Table & Inn

Renowned for its upscale menu (truffle risotto, pan-roasted local scallops), this Southold destination attracts Manhattan foodies and recently introduced a lunch truck parked in the lot outside, serving pulled pork sandwiches and lobster rolls.

Greenport Harbor Brewing Company

Locavores who tire of North Fork wine find another island sip in this tasting room next to Greenport's tiny town jail. Try the Harbor Pale or, if it's on hand, the rare Triton barley wine, named for the Greek messenger of the sea.

Mashomack Preserve

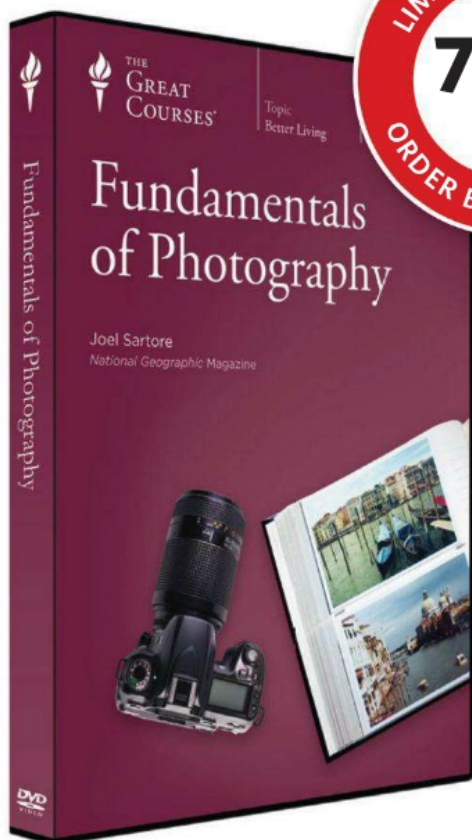
This tranquil Shelter Island park—sometimes referred to as the "Jewel of the Peconic"—features more than 20 miles of hiking trails, 12 miles of coastline, and one of the East Coast's largest osprey populations.

Lobster Roll This seaside shack in Amagansett, on the Napeague isthmus, claims to have invented the "cold" lobster roll. Locals just call it "Lunch," thanks to the prominent neon sign on its roof (below).



Montauk Point Lighthouse New York's oldest functioning lighthouse was commissioned under George Washington in 1792.

Parrish Art Museum Founded in 1898, this art gem moved to Water Mill last fall. Architects Herzog & de Meuron designed two low-profile wings that run in parallel, mimicking the forked geography of the island. Sky-lit galleries showcase works from the storied artists colony of eastern Long Island, most notably 40-plus pieces by William Merritt Chase.



Learn the Inside Secrets of Professional Photographers

Photographs can preserve cherished memories, reveal the beauty of life, and even change the world. Yet most of us point and shoot without really being aware of what we're seeing or how we could take our photo from good to great.

Just imagine the images you could create if you trained yourself to "see" as the professionals do. With **Fundamentals of Photography**, you'll learn everything you need to know about the art of taking unforgettable pictures straight from *National Geographic* contributing photographer Joel Sartore—a professional with over 30 years of experience. Whatever your skill level, these 24 engaging lectures allow you to hone your photographer's eye, take full advantage of your camera's features, and capture magical moments in any situation or setting imaginable.

Offer expires 09/02/13

1-800-832-2412

WWW.THEGREATCOURSES.COM/5NGTR

Fundamentals of Photography

Taught by Joel Sartore, Professional Photographer
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

LECTURE TITLES

1. Making Great Pictures
2. Camera Equipment—What You Need
3. Lenses and Focal Length
4. Shutter Speeds
5. Aperture and Depth of Field
6. Light I—Found or Ambient Light
7. Light II—Color and Intensity
8. Light III—Introduced Light
9. Composition I—Seeing Well
10. Composition II—Background and Perspective
11. Composition III—Framing and Layering
12. Let's Go to Work—Landscapes
13. Let's Go to Work—Wildlife
14. Let's Go to Work—People and Relationships
15. Let's Go to Work—From Mundane to Extraordinary
16. Let's Go to Work—Special Occasions
17. Let's Go to Work—Family Vacations
18. Advanced Topics—Research and Preparation
19. Advanced Topics—Macro Photography
20. Advanced Topics—Low Light
21. Advanced Topics—Problem Solving
22. After the Snap—Workflow and Organization
23. Editing—Choosing the Right Image
24. Telling a Story with Pictures—The Photo Essay

Fundamentals of Photography

Course no. 7901 | 24 lectures (30 minutes/lecture)

SAVE \$185

DVD ~~\$254.95~~ **NOW \$69.95**

+\$10 Shipping, Processing, and Lifetime Satisfaction Guarantee

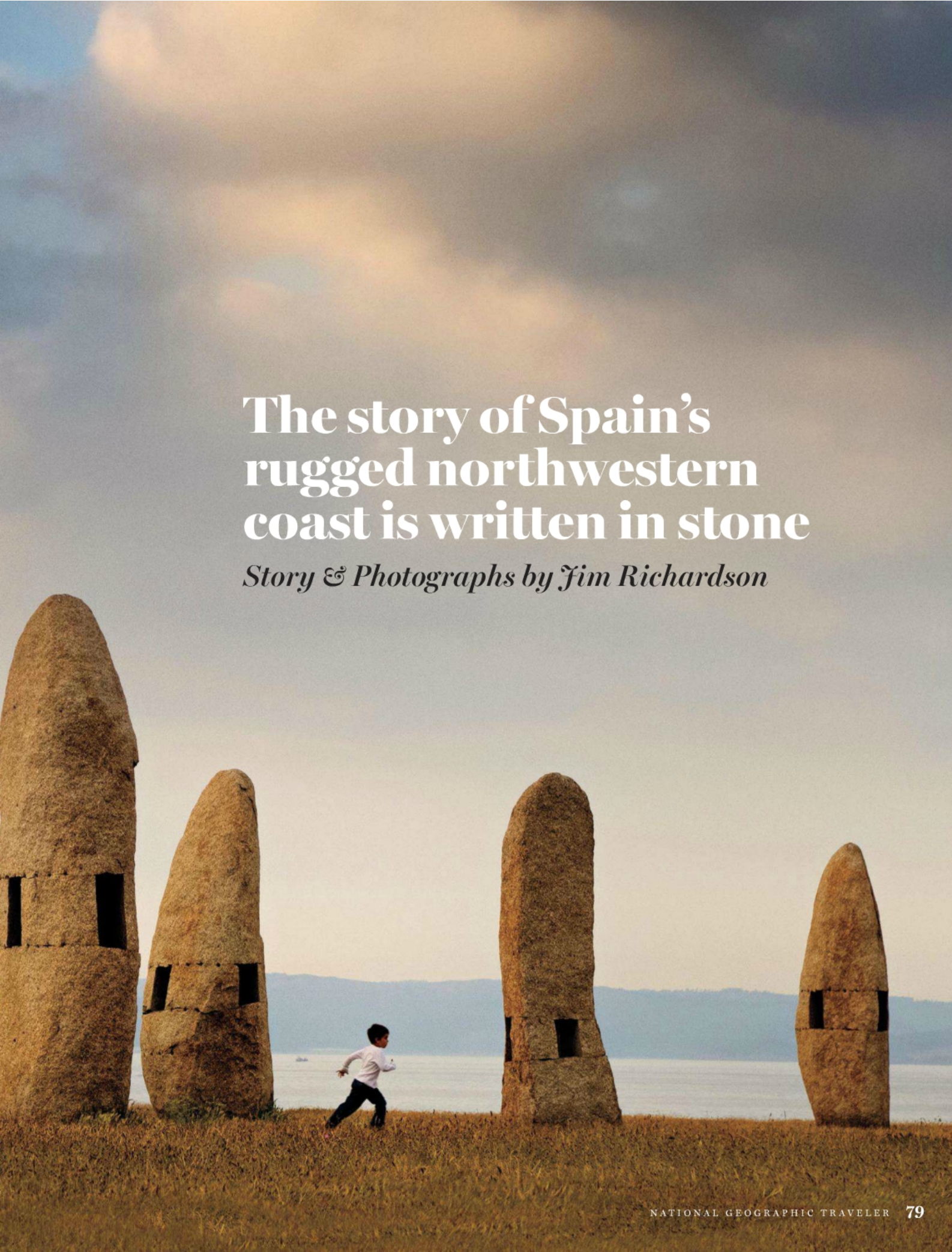
Priority Code: 83237

Designed to meet the demand for lifelong learning, The Great Courses is a highly popular series of audio and video lectures led by top professors and experts. Each of our more than 400 courses is an intellectually engaging experience that will change how you think about the world. Since 1990, over 10 million courses have been sold.

Galicia, Untamed



Totems of a past life: Menhir stones erected along Galicia's coast in 1994 hark back to Celtic times.

A full-page photograph of a child running across a grassy field between four tall, stone sentry-like structures. The structures are made of rough-hewn stone and have small, dark rectangular openings near their bases. In the background, a calm body of water stretches to the horizon under a dramatic, cloudy sky with a soft rainbow visible. The overall mood is serene and historical.

The story of Spain's rugged northwestern coast is written in stone

Story & Photographs by Jim Richardson

The pilgrims are steadfast, fervent, determined as they pass through the Galician village of O Cebreiro (*below*), in northwestern Spain. The dogs do not bark; they see pilgrims every day. O Cebreiro is on the final leg of the Way of St. James, a medieval religious route that ends in Galicia's capital, Santiago de Compostela.

Mine is a different pilgrimage. Not across the verdant mountains of northern Spain. Not for the remission of sins. Mine is a pilgrimage into my Celtic ancestry. Celts once inhabited



much of Europe, including the wild fringes of the Atlantic Ocean, from Scotland south through Wales, Cornwall (where my ancestors resided), Brittany, and northern Spain. That they established themselves this far south surprises many, but the evidence is all around me. In O Cebreiro, thatched *palloza* huts, peaked like the mountains beyond, are based on Celtic designs. Stone walls of ancient pallozas (*right*) crowd Santa Tecla hill, on Galicia's western coast. Looking down from this site—already old when the Romans came—to the modern suburbs of A Guarda below, I can feel the continuity of human existence, of communities following one another for 2,000 years.



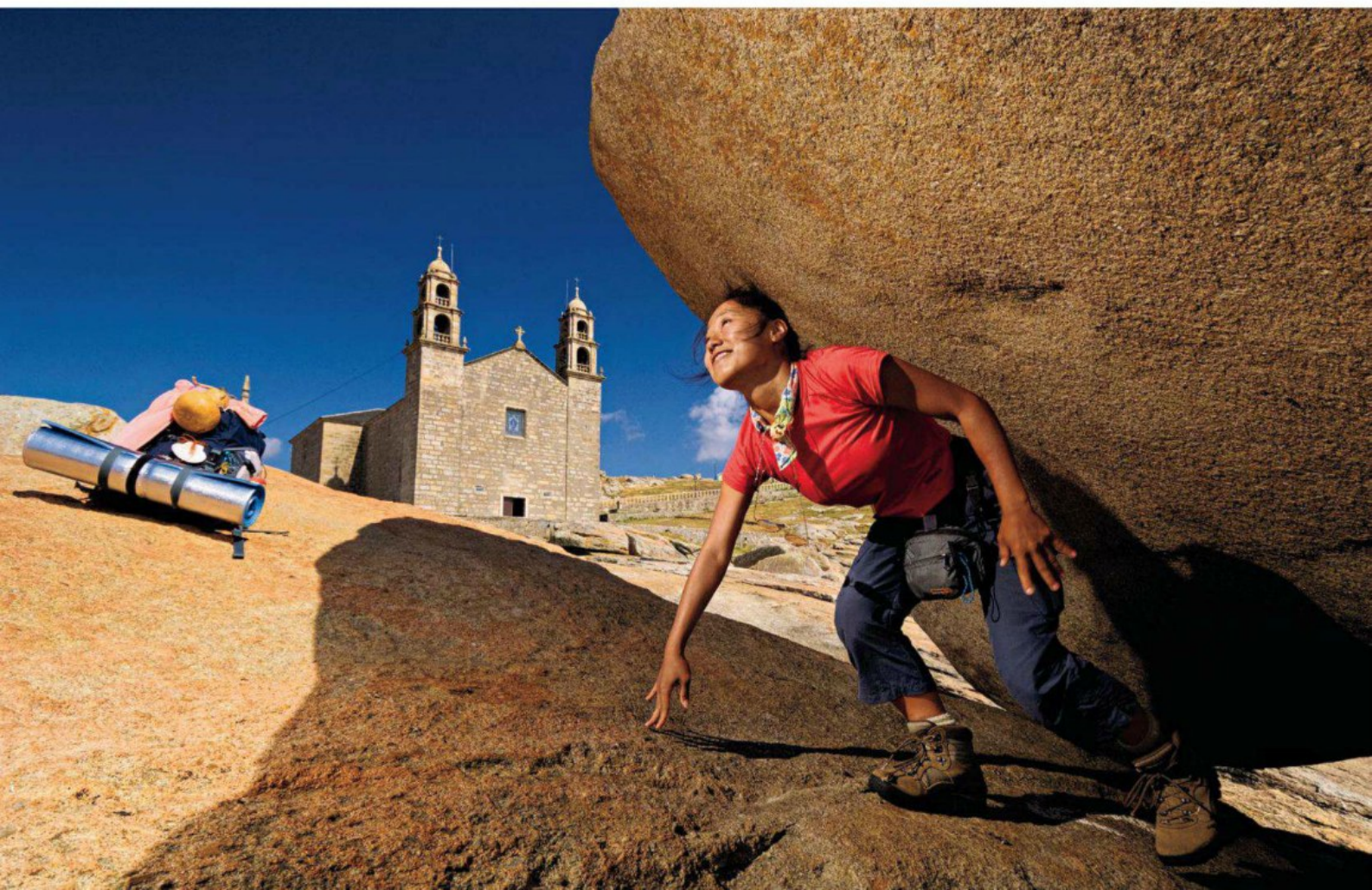
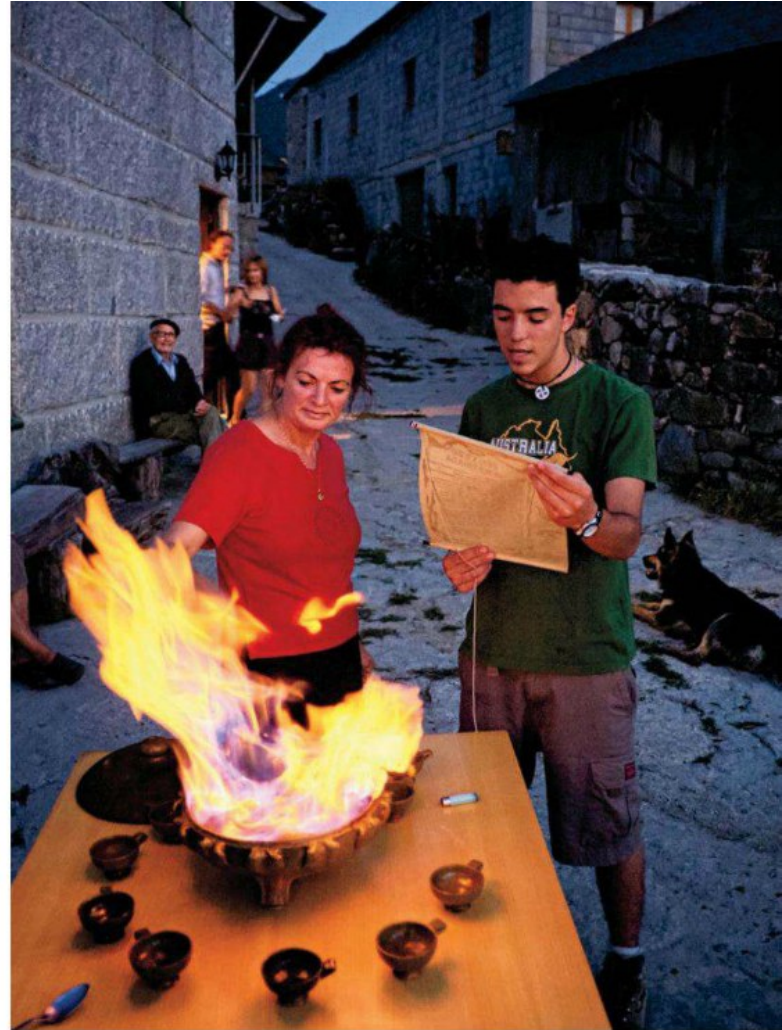
Stone is everywhere in Galicia. Hundreds of weathered stone granaries (*below*), set on pillars to keep rodents out, grace the countryside. In Galicia's western reaches, by the town of Muxía, sits the church Nuestra Señora de la Barca (*opposite, bottom*). Below it, the flared Pedra dos Cadrís draws visitors with its purported healing powers. Pilgrims come here after completing the Way of St. James to crawl under the stone, repeating a local tradition.

Celtic rituals appear to inform Galicia's *queimada*, or "burn," which refers to both an alcoholic drink and the ceremony around it. In the town of Piornedo, I watch as the drink—



made with a liqueur, sugar, lemon peel, and coffee beans—stews in a clay pot. It then is set on fire (*opposite, top right*). As flames leap into the night, an incantation is read: "Demons, goblins, and devils, spirits of misty vales ... howl of the dog ... omen of death ... maws of the satyr..." Finally, the steaming brew is ladled into cups. I drink. No witches; I have a good time. Though I wonder what older Galicians (*opposite, top left*) make of such Celtic throwbacks.

Horses played a big role in the Celtic world. Valued for their strength, they were associated with gods. Wild descendants of those horses are rounded up today in the *rapa das bestas*,







or taming of the beasts
(preceding pages), at which
they are wrestled to the
ground by bare-handed men
and women so their manes
and tails can be trimmed.

I join the fray, watching as
two men single out a horse
and grab at its mane; others
go for the tail. Dust rises in
clouds, and the horse slips
away. Suddenly, I see a wall
of horses charging toward
me—and I do something
strange: I wait for them to
get closer. Why? I can't say,
except that at that moment
I understand why men grab
a feral horse: to feel the wild
in their hands.

Galician nights have their
own wildness. At O Bar de
Fredi (*right*), musicians beat
tambourines to songs they
chant with frantic energy,
a music that has filled the
valleys here for centuries.

Like other pilgrims, in
Galicia I have found what
I've been looking for: living
echoes of my Celtic ancestry.

Contributing photographer **JIM
RICHARDSON** covered another land
of Celts in "A Scottish Obsession"
(August/September 2012).





Knock, knock.
Who's there?
Woo.
Woo who?

That's the sound of millions of people
saving money with GEICO.

GEICO®

geico.com | 1-800-947-AUTO (2886) | Local Office



Points of Departure is a listing of advertisers who would like to offer you additional information about their products and services.

To get more
Information:



Circle the number on the attached card
and mail or fax to 888-847-6035



Text TRJUN followed by the
category circle # below to 41411



For instant access, visit us
online at ngt-travelinfo.com

Travel the U.S.A. (circle 500)

- 1. BILLINGS, MONTANA'S TRAILHEAD**
Forever views, forever memories, exceptional air service, historical legends and breathtaking adventures. Billings is Montana's Trailhead.
- 2. BOZEMAN CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU**
Where blue jeans meet blazers, down home meets downtown and Gore-Tex meets gourmet, only 80 miles from Yellowstone National Park.
- 3. CENTRAL MONTANA**
A canoe ride down the Wild and Scenic Missouri River or a hike along the Rocky Mountain Front will immerse you in the perfect vacation experience.
- 4. HELENA, MONTANA**
Hiking, fishing, golfing, shopping, sailing, galleries and museums, whatever is on your mind, you'll find it in Helena. 800-743-5362.
- 5. IDAHO TOURISM**
Come to Idaho and experience scenic wonder, exciting recreation and more. Call 800-VISIT-ID for vacation deals and order a free travel guide.
- 6. LONG ISLAND'S SUFFOLK COUNTY**
Discover sunset walks on white sand beaches, historic sites, the Hamptons, Gold Coast mansions, and over 30 vineyards near NY City.
- 7. MONTANA**
Epic views bookended by Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks. Montana.
- 8. NEW MEXICO TOURISM DEPARTMENT**
Where authenticity & culture collide for unique experiences that can be had nowhere else. Adventure that feeds the soul only found in New Mexico True!
- 9. OREGON'S WASHINGTON COUNTY**
The gateway to Oregon Wine Country, enjoy miles of hiking and cycling trails, the Tualatin River, Hagg Lake, Tillamuck State Forest, and state parks.
- 10. TEXAS TOURISM**
Take a tour of Texas. From fair weather fun to friendly locals, we've got it all.
- 11. UTAH OFFICE OF TOURISM**
The Mighty Five™, five national parks — one epic experience. Explore different itineraries for your Mighty Five trip.
- 12. WESTERN MONTANA'S GLACIER COUNTRY**
Escape to the gorgeous world of Glacier Country for your ultimate getaway. Call for a FREE Travel Guide. 800-338-5072.
- 13. WHITEFISH, MONTANA**
Explore world-class recreation, gourmet dining and cozy lodging—just 25 miles from Glacier National Park's otherworldly landscapes.
- 14. WYOMING — FOREVER WEST**
Wyoming is not just a destination; it's a spirit of adventure that says you and your family belong.

► Text TRJUN 500 to 41411

Hot Spot Travel: Best of California (circle 180)

- 15. CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS FOUNDATION — 415-262-4400**
- 16. CATALINA ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU — 866-449-5807**

- 17. OXNARD CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU — 805-385-7545**
- 18. REDDING CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU — 800-874-7562**
- 19. REDONDO BEACH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU — 800-282-0333**
- 20. REDWOOD COAST / HUMBOLDT COUNTY — 800-346-3482**
- 21. SAN MATEO COUNTY / SILICON VALLEY CVB — 800-288-4748**
- 22. SONOMA COUNTY TOURISM — 800-576-6662**
- 23. VENTURA VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU — 800-483-6204**
- 24. VISIT OCEANSIDE — 866-292-9224**

► Text TRJUN 180 to 41411

Hot Spot Travel: Best of the West (circle 179)

- 25. HELLS CANYON VISITOR BUREAU, ID — 877-774-7248**
- 26. LEAVENWORTH, WA — 509-548-5807**
- 27. PEPPERMILL RESORT SPA CASINO, NV — 800-648-6992**
- 28. RED MOUNTAIN RESORT, UT — 877-246-4453**
- 29. SEA LION CAVES, OR — 541-547-3111**
- 30. SNOHOMISH COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU, WA — 888-338-0976**

► Text TRJUN 179 to 41411

Visit the Islands (circle 501)

- 31. ISLAND OF O'AHU**
From surf lessons to gourmet regional cuisine, hula festivals to Pearl Harbor—go on a vacation that energizes the soul and invigorates the senses.

► Text TRJUN 501 to 41411

Travel the World (circle 503)

- 32. QUÉBEC CITY TOURISM**
Visit Québec City, famous for its history and architecture, charming cobblestone streets, fortifications and old quarters. So Europe, So Close!
- 33. SWITZERLAND**
Order our free summer guide for inspiration and tips.

► Text TRJUN 503 to 41411

Hotels & Resorts (circle 504)

- 34. AMERICA'S BEST VALUE INN**
A family of 1,000 inns, hotels and suites throughout North America, offering hometown comfort, quality and service at an exceptional value.
- 35. LEXINGTON HOTELS**
A collection of Inns, Hotels, and Suites offering exceptional comfort, quality, and personalized service at affordable prices.

- 36. TRAVELODGE**
Travelodge offers a great place to relax after a day of adventure!

► Text TRJUN 504 to 41411

Cruising (circle 505)

- 37. DELFIN AMAZON CRUISES**
Enjoy a Luxury Expedition Amazon Cruise in the Peruvian rain forest. Indulge yourself in a private experience on board our 4 cabin cruise ship.

► Text TRJUN 505 to 41411

Traveler Getaways (circle 507)

- 38. ACTIVE ADVENTURES**
Offering a variety multi-activity adventures in New Zealand, Peru, Patagonia, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, and the Himalayas.
- 39. ADVENTURE LIFE**
Offering private journeys and small group tours that go beyond the ordinary. Transform your travels into what they should be—inspiring, authentic.
- 40. AFRICA ADVENTURE COMPANY — 800-882-9453**
- 41. ARIZONA STATE PARKS — 602-542-4174**
- 42. BOUNDLESS JOURNEYS**
Outstanding travel experiences for people with an adventurous spirit. Worldwide adventure tours, ranging from wilderness treks to cultural journeys.
- 43. COSTA RICA EXPERTS — 800-827-9046**
- 44. DEEPER AFRICA — 888-658-7102**
- 45. DESTINATION HIMALAYA — 800-694-6342**
- 46. INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS**
The Amazon, Galapagos & Cuba — just 3 of the many places you can discover with International Expeditions, world leader in nature travel for 33 years!
- 47. JOURNEYS INTERNATIONAL — 800-255-8735**
- 48. MOUNTAIN LODGES OF PERU**
First class lodge-to-lodge trek along the Salkantay Inca Trail to Machu Picchu (7 days-6 nights Cusco to Cusco).

- 49. VISIT CHEYENNE**
Live the Legend of Cheyenne, your Railroad and Rodeo Capital of the American West.
- 50. VISIT ESTES PARK**
Get away to Estes Park, Colorado and experience your Rocky Mountain National Park. Only 90 minutes from Denver, hundreds of reasons to stay!
- 51. VISIT PENSACOLA BEACH**
Come discover and experience wildlife firsthand with beautiful Pensacola Beach's new Footprints in the Sand Eco Trail, coming Summer 2013.
- 52. WILLAMETTE VALLEY VISITORS ASSOCIATION**
Only a few miles from Portland, OR, Willamette Valley seems a world away. Hike, bike, sip and savor your way through pinot-rich wine trails.
- 53. ZEGRAHM EXPEDITIONS**
Weaving together the world's most inspiring and remote destinations—on all seven continents—into unique, all-inclusive itineraries.

► Text TRJUN 507 to 41411

CALL FOR
NOMINATIONS

Changing the World, One Trip at a Time

National Geographic Traveler is seeking the next
Travelers of the Year



*Paula Busey and Samuel
Melami, in Colorado,
two of last year's
Travelers of the Year.*

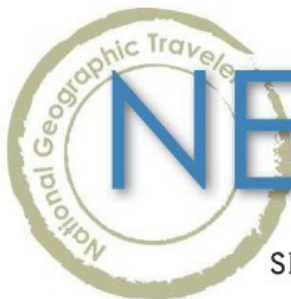
Amazing people visiting fascinating places, and doing astonishing things.

If you or someone you know is a traveler with extraordinary passion and purpose, tell us. In the November issue of *National Geographic Traveler*, we'll honor ten gung-ho globe-trotters, dedicated voluntourists, and green-minded adventurers who inspire us to take on the world.

Deadline for nominations: June 30, 2013

Learn more: nationalgeographic.com/travelersoftheyear

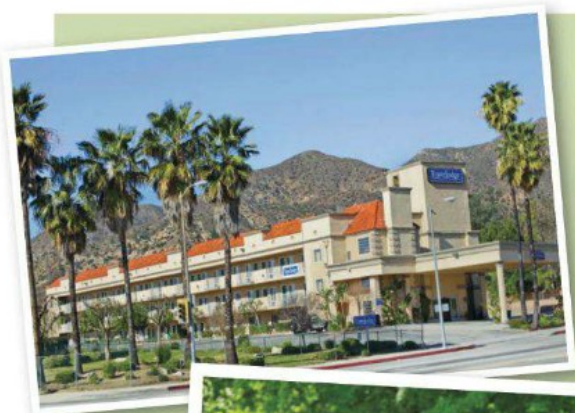
NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
TRAVELER



SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

NEXT STOP

SIGNATURE EVENTS AND PROMOTIONS



Travelodge Free Kids Zoo Ticket Offer!

Travelodge Hotels wants to make your summer vacation even better! Stay two nights at a Travelodge in the U.S. and you can receive two children's zoo tickets—that's what's called a ZOocation! Plus get free breakfast, free Internet, and kids under 17 stay free at more than 350 locations around the U.S.

For more information, visit Travelodge.com/ZOocation.

Travelodge

STAY CLOSE TO ADVENTURE®



Personality Hotels: Our Passion Is Your Experience

Personality Hotels is San Francisco's first boutique hotel collection, boasting four eclectic properties in the Union Square area, famous for great shopping, theaters, and restaurants. Guests can choose to stay at Hotel Diva, Kensington Park Hotel, Hotel Union Square, and the Steinhart Hotel. Kids' suites are available at Hotel Union Square and Hotel Diva, and all properties are pet friendly! Visit personalityhotels.com.



personality hotels
SAN FRANCISCO

Finally, There's A Full-Frame Nikon For Your Full-Time Passion.

The Nikon D600 puts stunning full-frame quality within the reach of serious enthusiasts. It offers an FX-format 24.3 megapixel CMOS sensor, 39-point autofocus, full 1080p HD video, a built-in flash, and extended ISO range from 50 to 25,600. Compatible with the full range of NIKKOR lenses.

nikonusa.com/D600



At the heart of the image™



Third Annual Hawai'i Food & Wine Festival—September 1-9, 2013

Join Hawai'i's James Beard Award-winning chefs Roy Yamaguchi and Alan Wong and more than 50 of the hottest chefs and culinary personalities from Hawai'i, the mainland U.S., and around the globe for an unforgettable week of delicious food and incredible wines. Creative culinary styles and fresh local produce will be highlighted at special events. HawaiiFoodandWineFestival.com

The Island of

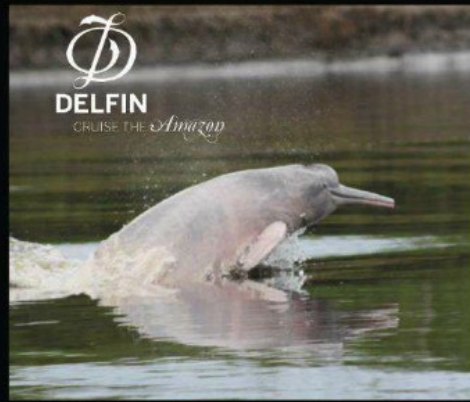


The Heart of Hawai'i®


TRAVELER

GETAWAYS

The Essential Guide for Planning Your Next Journey



*Discover the Peruvian Amazon,
go Expedition Cruising
with Delfin Amazon Cruises*

Indulge yourself in the Delfin Experience and let yourself get wowed with our spacious cabins, gourmet meals, exciting activities & personalized services in one of the last wildlife havens in the world.

www.delfinamazoncruises.com
info@delfinamazoncruises.com

We've Got You Covered®

**Free Value Club*
Instant Rewards!**

Save 15% on Future Stays, Room Upgrade,
Late Check-Out & More!

Free Internet, HBO, and Continental Breakfast
at most of our **1,000**
Inns, Hotels
& Suites



**Americas
Best Value Inn**
by Vantage

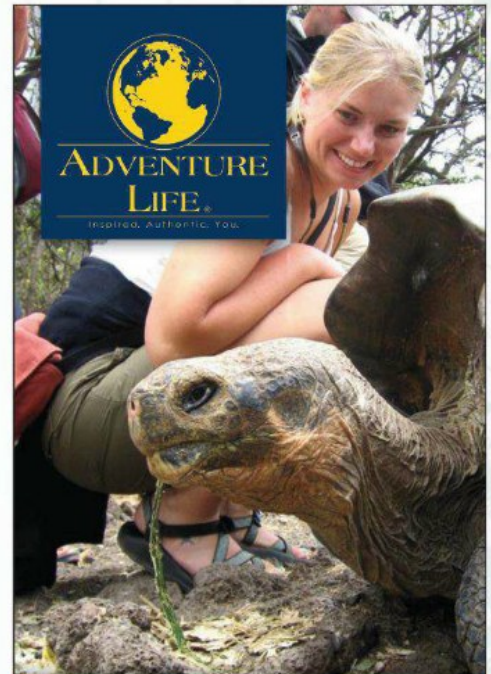
**Canadas
Best Value Inn**
by Vantage



American Express® Cards
warmly welcomed.

*Offers & discounts are subject to availability and may be cancelled at any time. Details at AmericasBestValueInn.com or visit an Americas Best Value Inn. © 2013 Vantage Hospitality Group, Inc.

AmericasBestValueInn.com • 888-315-2378



Guyana Ecuador Alaska Chile
Mediterranean Argentina Amazon
Antarctica Machu Picchu Arctic
Peru Caribbean Costa Rica Belize
Galapagos Patagonia More...

**AdventureLife.com
800.344.6118**



**ZEGRAHM
EXPEDITIONS**

Beyond the Destination



Small-ship cruises and overland adventures to Africa, Antarctica, the Galápagos, Indonesia and beyond.

www.zegrahm.com | 800.628.8747

Discover
AMAZON



Kayak, hike, spot pink river dolphins and monkeys, and meet a village Shaman with International Expeditions — the company that pioneered Amazon travel 33 years ago. IE's NEW riverboat offers first-class amenities. Plus, our local guides share unrivaled insight.

Join Special World-Renowned Guest Speakers
July-October 2013!

Get your **FREE** brochure
www.IEtravel.com 800-633-4734

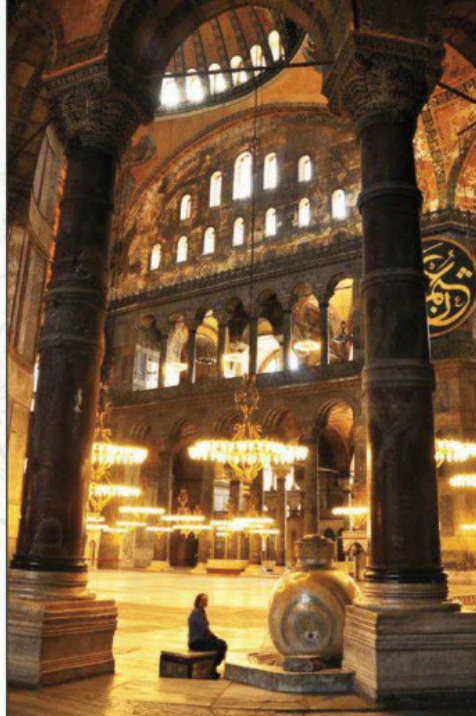


**INTERNATIONAL
EXPEDITIONS**

World Leader in Nature Travel®

GeoEx GeoEx.com/ngt
888-217-0990

Where Art & Literature Beckon
Explore inspiration-sparking places



Machn Picchu
Lodge to Lodge Journey
www.mountainlodgesofperu.com



Exclusive Lodges - Guided Treks
Equestrian Program - Small Groups



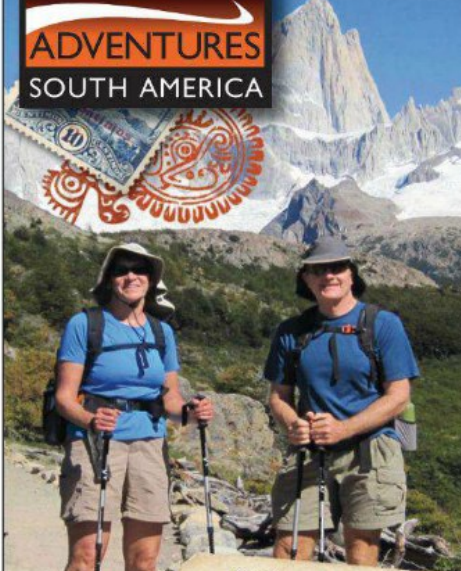
1-877-491-5261
info@mountainlodgesofperu.com



Mountain Lodges of Peru
adventure at its finest



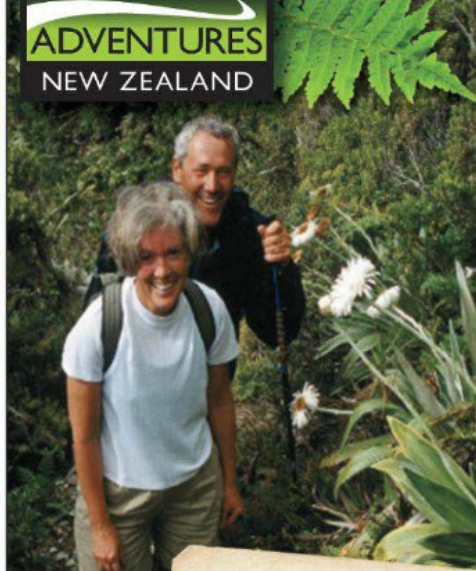
**ACTIVE
ADVENTURES
SOUTH AMERICA**



Explore the most stunning places in Peru, Patagonia, the Galapagos Islands and Ecuador.

activeadventures.com
FREE BROCHURE 1 800 661 9073

**ACTIVE
ADVENTURES
NEW ZEALAND**



Explore the best of New Zealand on our all-inclusive, fully guided active adventures.

activeadventures.com
FREE BROCHURE 1 800 661 9073



VINTAGE & VINEYARDS

Blaze a trail through time exploring the Salem region's rich history, attractions, museums and award-winning wineries. Document your adventure through artisan wine, cheese and chocolate-covered cherries. Be sure to bring this wealth of bounty home with you! **Experience the Salem region - Absolutely Oregon.**

Travel **SALEM**
ABSOLUTELY OREGON

www.TravelSalem.com
www.OregonWineCountry.org
OREGON. WE LOVE DREAMERS.™



Experience the Difference

Personalized service and exceptional quality and value at each of our worldwide locations

LEXINGTON
by Vantage
A Collection of Inns, Hotels & Suites

*Offers & discounts are subject to availability and may be cancelled at any time. Details at LexingtonHotels.com or visit a Lexington Hotel. © 2013 Vantage Hospitality Group, Inc.

LexingtonHotels.com
877-539-7070

3 Out of 5 Sea Turtles Dig Pensacola Beach



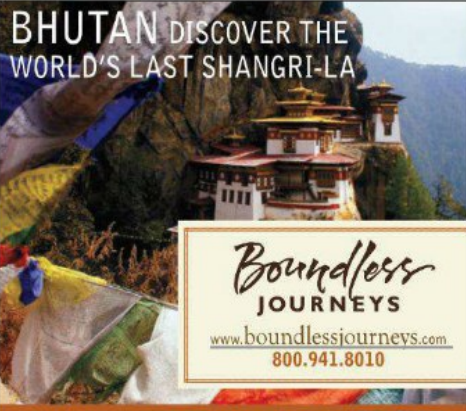
Pensacola Beach

Every year, three species of sea turtles return to nest on Pensacola Beach, including Kemp's ridley — the rarest living sea turtle. They're our premier repeat visitors on a beach consistently ranked among the world's best, brimming with hundreds of natural wonders and miles of gleaming, pristine beauty.

(800) 635-4803
VisitPensacolaBeach.com
[facebook.com/VisitPensacolaBeach](https://www.facebook.com/VisitPensacolaBeach)



BHUTAN DISCOVER THE WORLD'S LAST SHANGRI-LA



Boundless JOURNEYS
www.boundlessjourneys.com
800.941.8010

AWARD-WINNING WORLDWIDE ITINERARIES



EXPLORE THE SERENGETI

- Teeming with Wildlife
- The Wildebeest Migration
- Upscale Camping and Luxury Lodges

DEEPER AFRICA
www.deeperafrica.com 888-658-7102

Design your ultimate vacation to

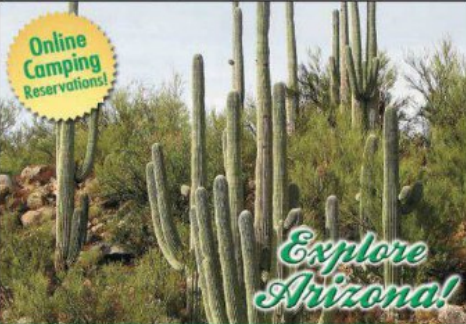
COSTA RICA



With 25 years experience we make the difference between a good trip & a lifetime memory!

800-827-9046
www.CostaRicaExperts.com

Online Camping Reservations!

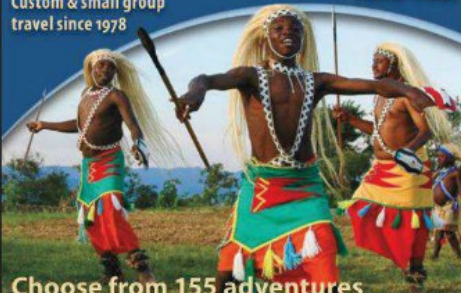


Explore Arizona!

Arizona State Parks
1,400 Camping & RV Sites • AZStateParks.com
Reservations Call (520) 586-2283 MST

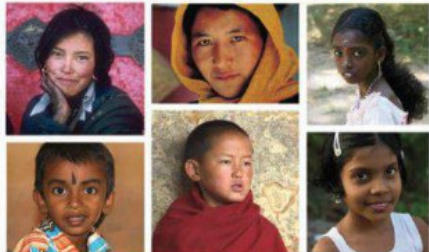
JOURNEYS INTERNATIONAL 800-255-8735
Africa • Americas • Asia
Pacific • Poles

Custom & small group travel since 1978



Choose from 155 adventures
www.journeys.travel

Photo Cultural Tours
India • Bhutan • Mongolia • Nepal • Tibet



1.800.694.6342
www.DestinationHimalaya.net
Destination Himalaya

UNIQUE TRIPS FOR THE ACTIVE TRAVELER

 NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
ADVENTURES



Venture off the beaten path and explore with National Geographic: Alaska • Tanzania • Scotland • Mongolia • Iceland • Belize • Patagonia • and many more!

Call toll-free 1-888-689-2557 or visit nationalgeographicadventures.com/trips

A hiker admires the view of the beautiful Irish countryside.

Mount Rushmore

A STATE PROJECT that became a masterpiece, Mount Rushmore was conceived in the early 1920s by state historian Doane Robinson to draw tourists to South Dakota. After hearing about a project to chisel the Confederate leaders on the face of Stone Mountain in Georgia, Robinson wrote the sculptor, Gutzon Borglum, and invited him to the Black Hills. It was Borglum who picked the four presidents and the granite expanse, and in 1925, Congress agreed to fund the idea. Borglum and hundreds of workers spent the next 14 years and a million dollars creating the monument. Today, nearly three million visitors come each year to ogle the massive busts, each as tall as a six-story building. —ANDREW NELSON

THE BEGINNING Sacred to the Lakota, “Six Grandfathers” mountain got its new name from New York lawyer Charles E. Rushmore, who visited the Black Hills in the 1880s.

THE RUNNERS-UP The original plan was to showcase Lewis and Clark, Chief Red Cloud, and Buffalo Bill, but Gutzon Borglum (right) decided the four presidents made more significant subjects.

THE WORK Workers carved 90 percent of the monument with dynamite, and finished with hand tools and air hammers.

THE UNDERSTUDY Lincoln Borglum completed his father's work in 1941 after Gutzon died during surgery.

THE MISTAKE Thomas Jefferson's face began on the right side of George



Washington, but Borglum blew that up and carved a new head on the left.

THE FACIALS In 2005 the memorial got its first cleaning ever. Workers spent three weeks pressure washing the dirt and lichen.

THE LADY In 1937, Congress proposed to add suffragette Susan B. Anthony to the memorial, but lack of carvable rock nixed the plan.

THE PAIN Some 400 people carved the memorial. One of the workers, Jack Payne, was fired for yodeling.

QUIZZABLE

In what direction do the presidents face?

- a) north-northwest
- b) southeast
- c) west-southwest

Answer: b.
Mount Rushmore faces southeast, gaining maximum exposure to the sun.

THE REBUTTAL Just 15 miles away a stone profile of Crazy Horse is taking shape on a mountainside. When completed it will dwarf the four presidents.

THE NOSES Each presidential schnoz is 20 feet long.

THE COLLAPSE Infinitesimal. With an erosion rate of one inch every 10,000 years, it will take a long time for Rushmore to fall apart.

THE TRIBUTE Visits to the memorial spiked 15 percent the year following the September 11 attack.

NOT HAVING TO MOVE
YOUR MARRIAGE
PROPOSAL TO ANOTHER
PARISIAN RESTAURANT:
PRICELESS



2X THE GLOBAL ACCEPTANCE OF AMERICAN EXPRESS.*



mastercard.com/worldelite



That's MasterCard. That's Priceless.

*The Nilson Report, February 2012. MasterCard, World Elite, Priceless, and the MasterCard Brand Mark are registered trademarks of MasterCard International Incorporated. ©2013 MasterCard. American Express is a registered trademark of the American Express Company. Ring provided by Michael B. ©Michael B., Inc.

Perfect for Paradise

PROLOGUE

Though I often looked for one, I finally had to admit that there could be no cure for Paris. Part of it was the war. The world had ended once already and could again at any moment. The war had come and changed us by happening when everyone said it couldn't. No one knew how many had died, but when you heard the numbers—nine million or fourteen million—you thought, *Impossible*. Paris was full of ghosts and the walking wounded. Many came back to Rouen or Oak Park, Illinois, shot through and carrying little pieces of what they'd seen behind their

kindle

Kindle Paperwhite

Read in Bright Sunlight • Books in 60 seconds • Holds up to 1,100 books

amazon